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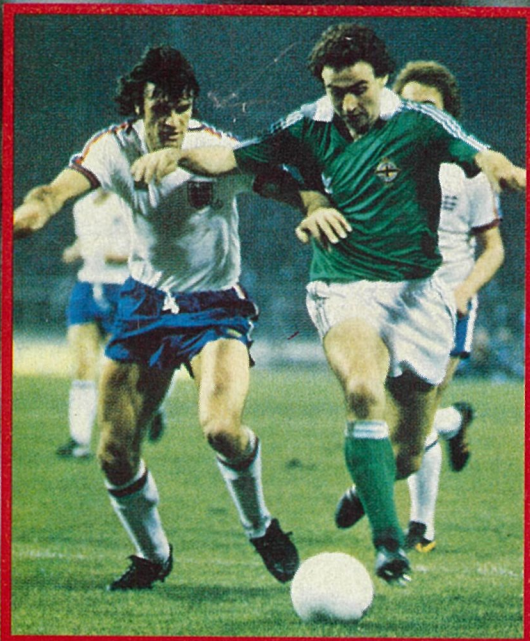
18p

10th FEBRUARY,
1979

EUROPEAN
CHAMPIONSHIP
SCOTLAND v
BELGIUM

ENGLAND v
N. IRELAND

Features and Photos



Ipswich Town's
young defender Terry
Butcher (blue shirt)
climbs above Frank
Werthington of
Bolton Wanderers.

LEFT... Dave
Watson of England
and Martin O'Neill of
Northern Ireland
could meet again in
the European
Championship-tie at
Wembley next week.

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EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

PREVIEW

ENGLAND v. NORTHERN IRELAND

at Wembley, Wednesday, February 7th

GROUP LEADERS TO KEEP UNBEATEN RECORD?

SELDOM, if ever, has an England v. Northern Ireland encounter captured the imagination of the soccer public like next Wednesday's European Championship clash, at Wembley.

Six wins and 13 draws in 85 British Championship meetings with England is not a record which the Irish can feel proud of, but, needless to say, past performances will count for nothing in next week's big European tie.

Indeed, the Danny Blanchflower-managed Ulstermen come to Wembley with an impressive, three-match unbeaten run in the present series, their 2-1 home win over Denmark, 2-0 away conquest of Bulgaria, and scoreless draw with Eire, in Dublin, boosting confidence and leaving them current Group One leaders.

Even Arsenal and Ireland goalkeeping superstar Pat Jennings, that normally modest net-minding genius of few words and many saves, went into raptures about the emphatic Bulgarian victory:

"Our 2-0 win in Sofia was a real tonic, lifted our morale sky-high and gave us a great appetite for the Wembley match with England, and the remaining games in our Group. Our performance in Bulgaria was a real team effort, one of the best-ever displays by an Ireland team since I came into the side and gave me one of my proudest moments in football."

Brilliant Pat, already Britain's most-capped goalkeeper and Ireland's most-honoured star, will pick up his 75th full Irish cap in the all-important Euro duel with England.

And, by doing so, he'll establish a new, 14-game appearance record in Ireland-England games, surpassing the 13-match all-time total he currently shares with compatriots Jimmy McIlroy and Billy Bingham, and ex-England skipper Billy Wright.

The Irish have made steady progress under the methodical managerial guidance of the legendary Blanchflower, now in his third term as national supremo.

Since the start of the 1977-78 campaign, the men in green have won four, drawn two and lost three — all 1-0 defeats — in a nine-game sequence, in which they have totalled ten goals and conceded five.

During this spell, they had wins over Iceland, Belgium, Denmark and Bulgaria, away draws with Scotland and Eire, and those narrow defeats came against Holland, England and Wales.

Accomplished internationals like the world-class Jennings, Pat Rice, Sammy Nelson, Allan Hunter, Chris and Jimmy Nicholl, Martin O'Neill, Sammy McIlroy, the under-rated Gerry Armstrong and Dave McCreery, newcomers Billy Caskey, Vic Moreland and Billy Hamilton, and scintillating Terry Cochrane, give Ireland strength and balance, in defence, midfield, and attack.

Challenge

However, Ron Greenwood-bossed, Kevin Keegan-inspired England, undefeated in their last eight games and proudly guarding a six-match unbeaten home record since the ex-West Ham United supremo succeeded Don Revie, in September, 1977, will be determined to maintain their European Championship challenge.

Northern Ireland seek their first Wembley triumph since a superlative Pat Jennings' display and a Terry Neill goal gave them a 1-0 victory, on May 23rd, 1972.

Wednesday night's European tussle, arguably the most important fixture in almost a century of England-Ireland confrontations, could well provide the 92,000 capacity Wembley crowd with a match, and a night, to remember.

'THIS COULD BE OUR MOST VITAL GAME'

Ron Greenwood,
England manager

ENGLAND manager Ron Greenwood believes that the biggest threat to his team's hopes of qualifying for the European Championship Finals in Italy is, ironically, their own reputation.

As Greenwood and England prepare for the Group One qualifying game against Northern Ireland at Wembley on Wednesday, February 7, they do so with the unexpected knowledge that their opponents are top of the section.

But Greenwood is neither surprised nor worried. He is, he says, fully aware of the capabilities of Danny Blanchflower's talented Irish squad and accepts that Group One is an even battle.

"Unfortunately, I still hear it said that England should beat the likes of Northern Ireland, Eire and Wales. But we are experiencing a great levelling off in terms of strength, and this is a good thing.



"Eire gave us a hard game in Dublin and we should have punished them at the back by scoring more goals. But they are a team with some world-class players.

"Northern Ireland won 2-0 in Bulgaria — a magnificent result — and turned the whole emphasis of the group away from Europe. So we know that this is going to be a hard game and a very important one.

"I find that because we are England we face stronger national teams than other countries face

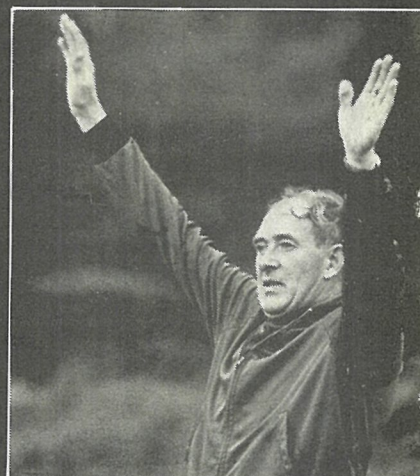
'DEFEAT WILL NOT BE A CALAMITY'

Northern Ireland
manager Danny
Blanchflower

WHATEVER the result of his team's match against England in the European Championship at Wembley, Northern Ireland manager Danny Blanchflower will not be thrown out of his stride. And if this seems a sweeping statement, Danny is not slow to supply the reason for his attitude.

He says: "Situated at the top of the table as we are, above England, a defeat for Northern Ireland would not be a calamity. We have played well enough to earn ourselves the opportunity of making a mistake without being punished for it, which for us is an unusual state of affairs. We could accept a defeat, and the question arises — even if England do well at Wembley, how will they fare in Belfast?"

Naturally, with his in-built flair for winning, and positive approach



to any game, Blanchflower will do all in his power to see that Northern Ireland maintain the standard they have shown under his direction. Though at the same time, he considers that his side are under a certain handicap even before the match with England gets under way.

"A good proportion of my team have been playing reserve team football in recent weeks," explains Danny. "Allan Hunter, Jimmy Nicholl, David McCreery and Gerry Armstrong, for example, are

FOR reasons other than the result, England's 2-1 Wembley victory over Ireland, on November 18, 1959, was a history-making epic from the point of view of both teams.

Firstly, England fielded their first-ever non-Football League player in Liverpool-born, Scottish-reared Hibs' striker Joe Baker, later to star for Arsenal and Nottingham Forest South of the border.

And Ireland got in on the act, too,

TWENTY YEARS AGO

by including Rotterdam Sparta inside-forward Johnny Crossan, afterwards a Football League pro, with Sunderland, Manchester City and Middlesbrough, who became the first non-British-based ace to represent his country.

For the record, debutant Baker and Bolton's Ray Parry got the English

goals, while Billy Bingham (Luton) replied for Ireland.

● Manchester United midfielder Dave McCreery is the sole ever-present Northern Ireland player to appear in supreme Danny Blanchflower's 16-game managerial career.

First honoured at full level v. Scotland, in May, 1976, perpetual-motion

Dave, also a Youth and Under-21 cap, will be making his 19th full Irish appearance in next Wednesday night's big Euro clash v. England at Wembley.

● The record score between the two countries is Ireland 0, England 13 in the very first meeting on February 18, 1882 in Belfast.

● Tottenham Hotspur striker Gerry Armstrong became Northern Ireland's 150th post-War player when he

within the same group. The Danes would be a real force if they fielded the team that we faced in Copenhagen. But while their top players seek release from their clubs to play against England — and this is very flattering for us — they are not so keen to get away to face Northern Ireland in Belfast.

"Ireland faced a different Danish team from the one we beat 4-3. And this, more than anything else, is the biggest threat to England. Denmark and Eire will be represented by their very best XI's when they come to Wembley. So every game for us represents a difficult match. It is impossible to underestimate any opponent."

Just as fascinating is Greenwood's belief that in many ways England would be better off playing Continental opposition.

He added: "When we play Northern Ireland we will face a team comprising mainly Football League players. So there is very little we do not know about each other. It is that little bit more difficult to surprise each other. Against foreign opposition, you face a new challenge, unknown faces, an unpredictable style of play perhaps."

"That is why I tell my players to treat all opponents as if they came from the other side of the globe. We have to believe that we are

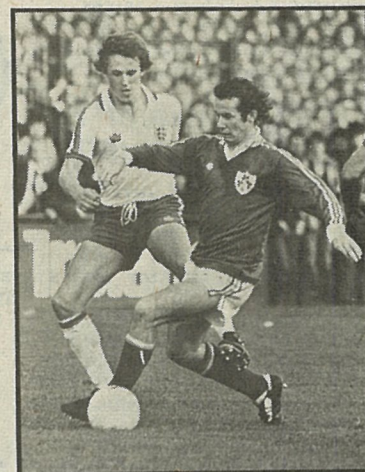


playing a team we have never seen before.

"Mind you, things even themselves out. Because Ireland, unlike the Continental teams, are likely to play with a defensive system comparable with ours. Continentals adhere to a rigid man-to-man marking system — something League players face

only at international level. The Home countries usually allow each other more freedom in attack.

"Ireland know that any result at Wembley that keeps them top of the Group will be a good one. We know that victory will set us on course for qualification. But no game is easy. The days when the rest of the British international



Above: Eire gave England a tough game in Dublin. Here Liam Brady is challenged by Phil Neal. Left: Bob Latchford scores England's third goal against Denmark.

teams came to Wembley for 90 minutes geared towards survival are over.

"It has got to be realised that all the British teams possess top-class players capable of producing their very best for their countries. We accept that as fact and prepare for Ireland accordingly. They have our respect. They top the Group."



approaching their match against England without the benefit of regular first team games. And they can't be thinking or acting as quickly in the reserves as they would in competitive League football.

"Fortunately, as well as the bad, there is a good side to this — men who have been relegated to the reserves may well feel they have something extra to prove when they take the field in an international game. And as I've already said, England are beneath us in the



Above left: Martin O'Neill in action against Eire. Above: Gerry Armstrong scoring Ireland's first goal in Bulgaria.

table — if they beat us, they will still just be on level terms with us after eliminating our two-point lead."

Blanchflower has said in the past that the time he has been able to spend with his Northern Ireland squad has been limited, and prevented him getting his ideas across to the players as effectively as he would if he had had the opportunity for lengthier preparation.

But he has achieved positive results as Northern Ireland manager, and points out: "We drew with the Republic of Ireland, and

defeated Denmark. And it will be interesting to see if Bulgaria can do better in their second game against us."

"Looking ahead to the match with England, I will select the men who have done well for me before — I don't want to make a major issue of the fact that some of my team will lack the benefit of First Division football before Wembley. They are in the reserves on the basis of other people's judgment, not mine, but on the day I'm hoping this will stimulate them into a top-class performance against England."

HOW THEY STAND IN GROUP ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N. IRELAND	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
ENGLAND	2	1	1	0	5	4	3
EIRE	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
DENMARK	4	0	2	2	9	11	2
BULGARIA	2	0	1	1	2	4	1

OUR PREVIEW OF THE SCOTLAND v. BELGIUM TIE IS ON PAGE 40

made his full debut v. West Germany, in Cologne, on April 27, 1977.

● One-time Manchester United superstar George Best scored Northern Ireland's 75th goal v. England, in a 1-3 Wembley defeat, on April 21, 1970.

● England's 50th victory came on November 2nd, 1955, at Wembley when they won 3-0. Two goals from Dennis Wilshaw and one from Tom Finney were enough.

● Northern Ireland's record score in a game v. England is three, achieving this figure on six occasions — 1914 (3-0), 1926 (3-3), 1957 (3-2), 1958 (3-3), 1963 (3-8), and 1964 (3-4), the latter, in fact, being the last time Ireland notched more than a single goal in a match in the series.

● Since 1946 England and Northern Ireland have met on 32 occasions, all Home Championship games, with England winning 24, drawing 6 and

losing twice, scoring 92 times and conceding 36.

● Bad news for any superstitious Irish fans — their country's mid-week jaunt against England will be their 13th — unlucky or otherwise! — Wembley outing.

● Ireland first played there on November 2, 1955, and in 12 Empire Stadium visits have won twice, in 1957 (3-2) and 1972 (1-0), drawn once, in 1961 (1-1), and lost 9 times, on four

occasions by the odd goal.

● Though no Northern Ireland striker has ever scored a "hat-trick" against England, no fewer than half-a-dozen Irish aces, Norman Lockhart (Linfield, 1946), Davy Walsh (West Brom, 1948), Charlie Tully (Celtic, 1952), Billy McAdams (Bolton, 1960), Sammy Wilson (Falkirk, 1963), and Jimmy McLaughlin (Swansea, 1964), all enjoyed two-goal outings in post-War encounters.

This week's Star Letter comes from Vidar Slatum of Nannestad in Norway who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

IS FOREIGNERS RULING FAIR?

I WANT to tell you about what I call the Refvik Tragedy. Two Norwegian players, Svein Mathisen and Isak Arne Refvik were with Hibernian a few weeks ago.

The idea was to see how they fitted into a professional set-up and they made their debuts in the Scottish League Cup Quarter-Final tie at Easter Road when Hibs beat Morton 2-0.

Refvik scored both goals... what a debut! Svein didn't do as well, but he'd hardly trained for several weeks. Hibs manager Eddie Turnbull even said Refvik could be as good a player as Lou Macari!

Then the shock. Because Refvik hadn't played for Norway, he couldn't sign a professional contract. Hibs protested and the case was, I believe, even taken up in the House of Commons. Unless a player is an established international, it would appear he can't play in Britain.

● That's the ruling made to protect British players, yet at the same time it prevents clubs like Hibs from finding real bargains abroad, players who, with professional coaching, could become international stars. I can see both sides of the argument, yet it's a fact that with the exception of Ardiles

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and possibly Golac, the other foreigners here are taking a while to adapt.

BRADY BETTER THAN ARDILES

CHRIS DAVIES chose Osvaldo Ardiles in his World XI, because of familiarity I think. He overlooked Liam Brady.

He also thought the £350,000 on Ardiles was money well-spent by Spurs, but an American club have offered £1 million for Brady



(below). When Spurs played Arsenal, Brady was the Man of the Match.

Ardiles is a great player, but Brady is younger and already greater.

ROGER McGRATH, DUBLIN.

● I take nothing away from Brady but Ardiles has proved himself at the highest level, helping Argentina to win the World Cup. Brady, as yet, hasn't had this opportunity and this is probably why the Spurs man was given a place in the World XI.

F.A. ANGRY

SO Don Revie has been banned for ten years. If he had been in any other profession, leaving one job for another, better paid, nothing would have been said. Maybe the F.A. were angry he got out before they could sack him.

PETER NWOSU, ENFIELD

● Revie did, of course, break his contract by leaving. Had he been sacked he would have received compensation. It wasn't just the way he left that angered the F.A.

and most England fans; other aspects of Revie's behaviour, now well-publicised, were also taken into consideration.

SHOOT INJURY JINX

DOES SHOOT have some kind of a jinx on its columnists? A player's career seems to take a turn for the worse when he becomes one of your columnists.

Danny McGrain's future has been in jeopardy; in 1978 both Andy Gray and Gordon Hill had the worst years of their careers because of injury; Gordon McQueen missed the World Cup when he "hit a post" during the British Championship; Gerry Francis used to write his column from his bed watching video recordings of his goals against Scotland; Alan Ball broke a leg twice and lost his England place.

Will players have second thoughts about signing on the dotted line for SHOOT in the future?

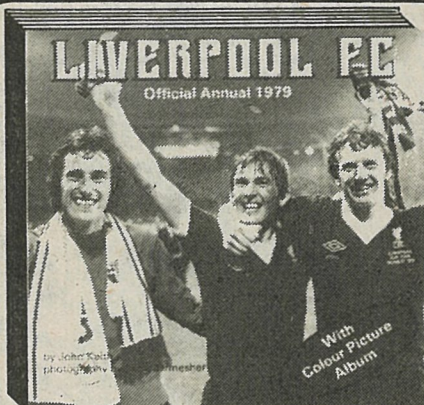
MATTI EINIO, HELSINKI.

● So far, we've never had anyone tripping over his pen and injuring himself while signing.

PEN-PAL

I'm a 22-year-old soccer fan from Brazil and I'd like pen-pals anywhere in the world.

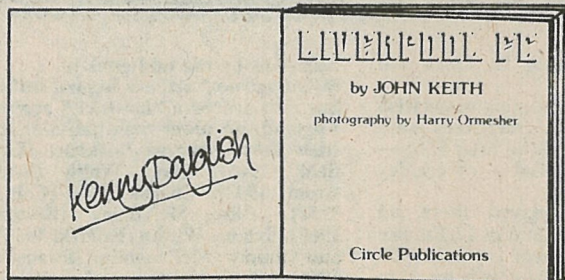
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SHOOT 11

'I STILL SUPPORT IPSWICH'

says Brian Talbot Arsenal's record signing

AT least two First Division managers must have raised an eyebrow at the £450,000 transfer of Brian Talbot from Ipswich to Arsenal.

They are John Bond of Norwich City and Birmingham City's Jim Smith, both of whom wanted to sign the dynamic midfielder man six years ago.

At that time the Ipswich asking price was £25,000 but this was beyond the budget of Bond and Smith, then in charge of Bournemouth and Colchester respectively.

Now 25-year-old Talbot is Arsenal's record signing, beating the fee paid for striker Malcolm Macdonald by more than £100,000!

He recalls: "I went to Canada for the summer in 1972 and when I came back I wanted more than just a reserve place at Portman Road.

"Eventually I was placed on the transfer list at my own request and I would have gone virtually anywhere for regular first team football.

"Ipswich put a price of £25,000 on my head and although that's peanuts these days it was a lot of money then, especially to clubs like Bournemouth and Colchester, who both decided they could not afford me."

There were no other offers so Talbot settled down to fight for his place at Ipswich, a battle he won in February, 1974 when he made his

debut at Burnley. He went on to become an automatic choice and to win great praise for his industrious displays in midfield.

But Talbot, capped five times by England and skipper on their B tour last Summer, is more than just an all-action grafter. He says: "I think I've proved I can play a bit.

"Apart from my international record I've won an F.A. Cup winner's medal, played regular First Division football for five years and have been involved in top European competition at club level.

"That's not bad for someone who is supposed to be a hard worker and not much more, is it? The move to Arsenal will put me more in the public eye but I still know it is what happens on the field that counts."

Talbot couldn't have wished for a better start with the team he helped to beat in last season's F.A. Cup Final at Wembley because his debut coincided with Arsenal's victory over Champions Nottingham Forest.

Talbot was an instant hit with the Highbury crowd, who clearly enjoyed his total commitment, allied to a knack of getting into good scoring positions. And the fans also earned praise from the player.

"They were terrific right from the start," he says. "I felt at home from the moment I ran out and they were a big help to me.



A happy Brian Talbot with his new manager Terry Neill.

"I just hope I can always have them on my side.

"After costing such a lot of money I expect them to be a little

critical but I'm confident I can do well enough for them to decide I'm worth so much."

Talbot admits if he had been given his choice of which club to join he would have picked Arsenal. "They are special and always have been as far as I'm concerned," he says.

"You just have to walk into the stadium, look around at the marble hall and you can almost smell the tradition and atmosphere. You don't get that feeling at any other club.

"I must admit the thought of playing alongside Liam Brady every week excites me. He is truly world-class and although we are different types I think we can complement each other."

Talbot was ten years at Ipswich. He was born and brought up in the town and before leaving school to start his apprenticeship he was a regular on the terraces. He captained the youth and reserve sides and led the first team when Mick Mills was absent.

"It was a big wrench," he says, "Because I was really quite happy there and I have got no grumbles with the club because they always looked after me well.

"But when a club like Arsenal comes along you've just got to be interested. I had signed a long term contract at Ipswich and I wouldn't have left for any other club.

"I'll still support Ipswich, however. I've got a lot of good friends there and Town's will be the first result I'll look for each week."



Talbot takes on Forest full-back Frank Clark during his debut at Highbury.

'ALBION—



'The U.E.F.A. Cup — Europe's heaviest trophy'

THE way the Championship race is hotting-up, West Bromwich Albion look like being a bigger threat to our bid to take the title than our neighbours on Merseyside, Everton.

As I suspected at the outset, Albion and not Champions Nottingham Forest have emerged as the main contenders from the Midlands.

The Throstles have continued, under Ron Atkinson, the steady improvement they began in the reign of Johnny Giles, who left to take over the manership of Shamrock Rovers in the Republic of Ireland.

Last season they finished in a creditable sixth place, and earned a tilt at what is possibly this term's hardest to win European trophy, the U.E.F.A. Cup.

On January 13th, when our game against Birmingham was called off due to the wintry weather, Albion seized the chance to take a point from Norwich at Carrow Road and go to the top of the table.

I've always regarded Albion as strictly Cup-winning material in the past, and it's strange to view them as potential Champions. If they should somehow beat us to the trophy, it will be for the first time

since 1920.

Their last major honour came in the F.A. Cup in 1968, when they beat Everton by 1-0 with a Jeff Astle goal. Jeff was one of the most dangerous centre-forwards around at the time — he scored in every round of that Cup competition, including the Final — and played for England on several occasions.

It was a big setback for Albion when they went to Highbury as favourites for last season's Semi-Final, but were well beaten 3-1 by Ipswich Town. Their only consolation was Ipswich beat Arsenal in the Final at Wembley.

Now they are showing the consistency that brings results in the League. To win a Cup a side needs only to string around eight wins together, whereas to become Champions it must collect points regularly over 42 games.

I've been impressed at the way their players work for each other, combine their many and varied skills to good effect.

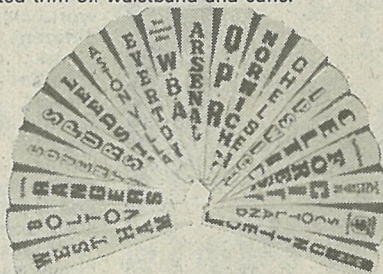
Injuries to their key players could pose a problem, due to lack of quality reserves, and the signing of big value players, such as David Mills from Middlesbrough, might not be a solution.

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OUR GREATEST RIVALS'

slot into a team, to adjust to playing with strange players operating a system different from that at his former club.

I remember when Manchester City, a few seasons ago, bought Rodney Marsh to strengthen their title bid, only to discover he didn't fit in. From that moment they struggled and ended in fourth position!

So, despite what some people think, money is no guarantee for success.

Unlike we at Liverpool, Albion are unaccustomed to fighting on two fronts, and being involved in the League battle and the U.E.F.A. Cup may prove hard to handle.

So far they have been very impressive in Europe, beating a Turkish side named Galatasaray, a Portuguese side, Braga, and Spanish club Valencia, for whom Kempes, the Argentine goalscorer who probably contributed most to his country's World Cup triumph, plays.

They seem to have mastered the knack of sneaking the away goal that means so much in European club competition.

As I mentioned earlier, I regard the U.E.F.A. Cup as the trophy likely to be the most difficult to win this season. The "field" remaining consists of many teams who look set to become Champions in their respective countries.

A fact seldom realised is that this competition actually has one more round than the others.

If a few League results go against

them, Albion may well settle for concentrating on the U.E.F.A. silverware.

I warn them, though, it's probably the heaviest trophy in the world, so they'd better get into training for the lap of honour.

Albion's first choice side is one of the most talented and best-balanced in the League.

In goal they have Tony Godden, only around 21, and a very promising player. He is extremely agile, with super-fast reflexes, yet because of his lack of height tends to struggle a bit on dealing with balls crossed from the wings.

However, in front of him is Alistair Robertson, a long-serving defender, strong in the tackle and in the air, and who specialises in heading away those dangerous crosses.

Alongside Alistair is captain John Wile, who took over as caretaker-manager when Ronnie Allen departed, and is universally respected for his ability both on and off the field.

Brendan Batson has replaced Paddy Mulligan in the back-four, and has found the confidence which eluded him at Arsenal.

At left-back is stationed Derek Statham, tipped by many as England's next left-back, although he is getting stiff competition for the berth from Ken Sansom of Crystal Palace.

The midfield, the "engine room" of a side, is the envy of many managers, and contains Bryan Robson, Tony Brown, Len Cantello and Laurie Cunningham.

Every one of them is a deadly striker of the ball, and unafraid of trying his luck at a long shot when the penalty-box is crowded and there's no one unmarked.

It's something I'll have to be continually on my guard against when we play Albion at Anfield this Saturday, February 3rd.

I must insert an extra-special mention for Tony Brown. He's been around so long that it's remarkable defenders still can't pin him down and stop him scoring. He's adept at volleying a ball, even around waist high.

Up-front is Alistair Brown, who acts as a perfect foil for Cyrille Regis, the big England B striker now in his second season at The Hawthorns.

To be honest, Cyrille has never performed outstandingly against us, although his showing against Manchester United at Christmas, when Albion beat the Old Trafford Reds by 5-3, has marked him down as possibly England's next centre-forward.

In Cyrille, Brendan and Laurie, Albion have three coloured lads, a sizable contingent, and the possible reason for this is the high level of immigrants in the locality.

In the past, coloured players have often found it hard to stand up to

the pace and consistency demanded in our game, and it's gratifying to see the Albion trio — and others of their race — breaking through and establishing themselves.

The Hawthorns ground has changed little since my first visit there. The only addition I've noticed is a row of boxes for the use of companies on one far side.

The playing surface is a good one, but because the ground is not completely enclosed it lacks the exciting, pulsating atmosphere of Old Trafford or Anfield.

Stunned

Support has gradually built up over the past few years, a sign that the populace scent success in the air, and gates now rank with the best in the First Division.

I'm pleased we've already played Albion at The Hawthorns, coming away with a valuable point after a 1-1 draw.

Kenny Dalglish was the man who hogged the headlines after this game, with a remarkable equaliser that stunned Albion.

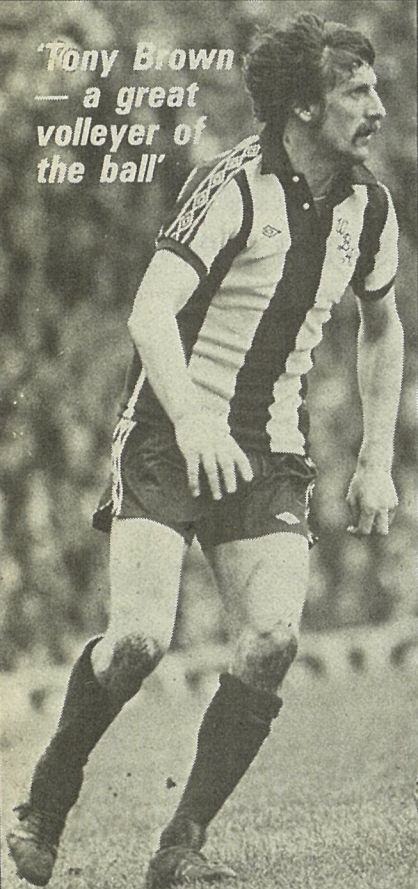
Tony Godden started to roll the ball out when Kenny, quick as a striking snake, nipped in, coolly whipped the ball away and stroked it into the net.

Our manager Bob Paisley quipped afterwards: "Kenny's the fastest thing at Anfield. He comes in for his wages on Thursday — and we don't pay out until Friday."

Here's hoping for a win bonus — and those two valuable points — for

RAY CLEMENCE
talking soccer

'Tony Brown — a great volleyer of the ball'



Kenny and the rest of The Reds this Saturday!

On the following Wednesday, England meet Northern Ireland at Wembley, in the third of our Group One matches in the European Championship.

After their impressive 2-0 win against Bulgaria which took them to the top of the group, Northern Ireland have emerged as a greater danger to our bid to reach the Quarter-Finals than the Republic.

We played the Northerners at Wembley in the last British Championship, beating them one-nil with a goal from my Liverpool team-mate Phil Neal.

Both of us were displaced in England's last game at Wembley — Phil by Viv Anderson and myself by Peter Shilton — which ended in a narrow 1-0 win over Czechoslovakia, the current European Champions.

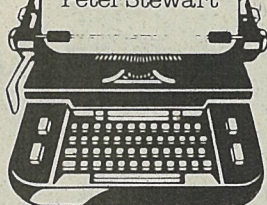
Obviously we're both looking forward to being re-instated for a game that could decide the outcome of our group.

It's one of our great ambitions to be part of an England team that achieves a first time ever win in the competition.

Ray Clemence

NEWS

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



DESK

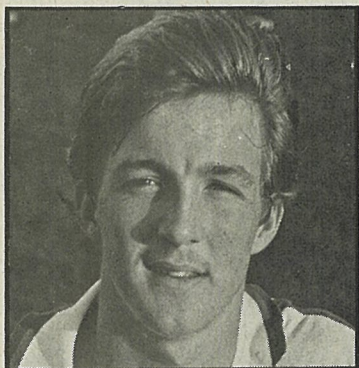
WHEN Home Farm beat Galway Rovers 6-1 at Terryland Park recently two records were established. It was Farm's record win, and for Galway it was their worst defeat since they joined the League of Ireland last season.

First the bad news . . .

CHRISTMAS, 1978 will certainly be remembered by Birmingham City's England Youth defender, Mark Dennis (below) and for two very different reasons.

On Boxing Day the exciting young full-back was shown the red card after an incident involving the referee in the players' tunnel, at the end of his team's crucial 2-1 defeat at Wolves.

The week ended on a decidedly happier note, however, when Blues manager Jim Smith gave Dennis a new, improved three year contract. The contract was just reward for the player, whilst ensuring the club have a fine prospect tied up for a lengthy period too.



LIKE FATHER... LIKE SON

WEST Bromwich Albion's record-breaking scorer, Tony Brown, completed a remarkable family double when he scored against Manchester United, at Old Trafford, on December 30.

Brown made his debut in September, 1963, at Ipswich and scored in Albion's 2-1 success. In goal for Ipswich that day was Roy Bailey. Facing Brown and suffering the same fate at Old Trafford 15 years later was Bailey's son Gary, now first choice at United.

Albion boss Ron Atkinson quipped: "The way the 'Bomber' is going at the moment, I am just wondering whether Roy Bailey has a grandson."

As a lad in Oldham, Brown was a United supporter — and there is nothing he likes more these days than to put one over his former favourites.

SUNDERLAND'S NEW BOSS — once sacked by the club

FOOTBALL is full of surprises. After being linked with some of the top names in the game, Sunderland recently appointed as manager a man they sacked six years ago.

Billy Elliott (right, with director Ted Evans, left) was axed as coach after Sunderland won the F.A. Cup in 1973. Later, he won a £1,500 settlement for wrongful dismissal.

But Elliott, a former Burnley and Sunderland player, bears no grudges. It proves that football follows no set guidelines.

Elliott got the chance after Sunderland exhausted the top-flight bracket that included Brian Clough, Lawrie McMenemy and Bobby Robson.

After coaching Brann, in Norway, Elliott was available in the North-East and eager for work. His appointment was a shock. It came right out of the blue. There were no inspired leaks or Elliott-for-Roker Park predictions.

Darlington directors were shattered by the decision. They had appointed Elliott as their manager and were ready to make a public

announcement!

Elliott, as an out-of-work manager, must have been flattered with two offers within 24 hours.

Promotion-chasing Sunderland made it clear Elliott's role will come up for review at the end of the season. So Darlington, in effect, offered more security.

Elliott chose the exciting potential of Sunderland to life in the Fourth Division. No doubt he is aware Sunderland have not yet abandoned ideas of a big-name personality. Yet Elliott is in the driving seat. If Sunderland gain promotion he will have a great chance of losing that "caretaker-manager" tag.



BRUCE RIOCH has never lacked ambition, that's for certain. The midfielder player, who was Scotland's captain in Argentina for the World Cup Finals last year, was asked recently if he would like to go into soccer management when he finally quits the playing side of the game.

"Yes," he replied. "I would like to be boss of the Scottish international side!"

Jock Stein, beware . . .

WAYNE Turner, a 17-year-old midfield player at Luton, tasted the big time at 15.

"I was a ball boy at Wembley when England beat Ireland 4-0 and the experience really thrilled me," says Wayne. "I was playing in Bedfordshire county football at the time."

Wayne who played for a Football League XI Under-18 side, joined Luton as a 14-year-old schoolboy and turned professional on his 17th birthday, last March.

ROBSON DENIES DUTCH SIGNING

BOBBY Robson has denied Ipswich are to sign Frans Thyssen, the Dutch international midfielder player, who was a team-mate of Arnold Muhren, at Twente Enschede.

The Ipswich manager has made it clear Thyssen is still under contract to the Dutch club, which ruled out any possibility of transfer.



A RIGHT CURL UP!

IT may well be a case of splitting hairs, but you have to be an expert to identify these Celtic wingers.

And even Parkhead fans will find it difficult to perm one from another in the future. For look-alike Johnny Doyle and Davie Provan, who make a habit of switching wings on the pitch, have now got the same hairstyles.

The pair are hoping to make Scottish defenders hair stand on end with their new double-act.

● All curled-up Johnny Doyle (left) and Davie Provan.



WEATHER CASUALTY

THE big freeze that devastated football this winter will always be remembered by Scottish referee Ken Hope, of Glasgow.

He should have been in charge of the Rangers — Partick Thistle Premier Division match at Ibrox on New Year's Day. He ordered a pitch inspection for 9 a.m. on the morning of the match. That was when the trouble began!

Ken's car became a casualty of the weather and refused to start. There was no public transport and the ill-fated official couldn't even order a taxi. He had no alternative but to walk the seven miles from his Clarkston home to the ground.

A wasted journey. The game was postponed because of ground conditions!

UP and DOWN

GOING UP . . . that's the value of St. Johnstone's former midfielder Bobby Thompson, who joined Morton this season. He signed for the Cappielow side for only £15,000, plus Tom McNeill. However, Morton boss Benny Rooney recently turned down a cash offer of £70,000 from Oldham for the player, who was capped at Scottish League level this season by Jock Stein against Ireland.

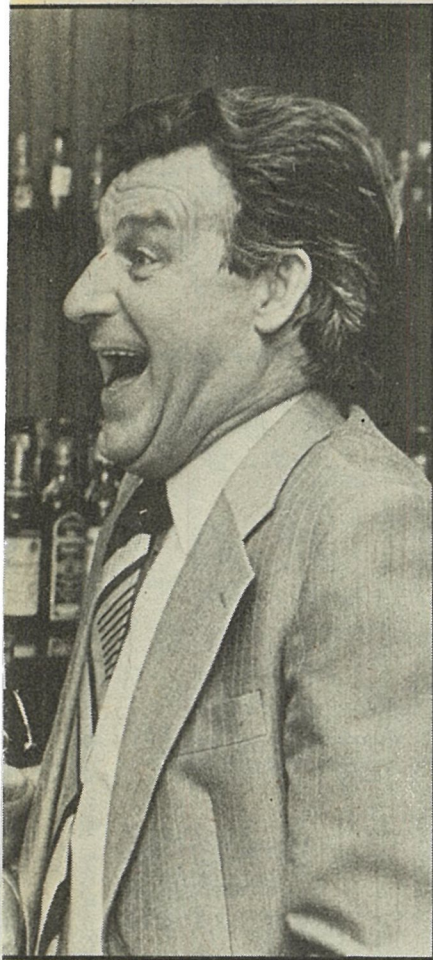
GOING DOWN . . . that's the value of Blackburn Rovers striker Joe Craig, who cost them £45,000 from Celtic this season. Things haven't worked out for Craig, and now the Second Division side are prepared to sell him for around a third of what he cost. Hibs, Aberdeen and Dundee United are watching developments.

BANGOR City, re-formed after the resignation of several directors, are staging the first pro-boxing tournament in the city for 30 years, on March 1, St. David's Day.

The tournament will be held at the Plaza Cinema. The club are hoping for a sell-out.

BLACKPOOL'S manager Bob Stokoe was a happy man when he pulled-off the £125,000 purchase Exeter's striker Tony Kellow.

He wasn't so pleased when he returned to Bloomfield Road and discovered Max Thompson had damaged knee ligaments and Jimmy Watson had fallen off a ladder at home.



URUGUAY champions Penarol cancelled their tour to England last month because of bad weather and the fixture pile-up. They were due to play Nottingham Forest and Fulham.

EX-LEICESTER City favourite Graham Cross has signed for Enderby Town. Cross, who played for Preston earlier this season, runs a successful labelling business in Leicester and was keen to play locally so that he could continue to devote most of his time to his company.

'Wrong about Clarke' admits BRIAN KIDD

BRIAN Kidd has confessed his surprise at the success that former Leeds striker Allan Clarke has achieved with Barnsley.

He wrote in a Manchester paper: "Looking at the emerging new school of managers who could eventually become tomorrow's characters, the most surprising to me is the emergence of Allan Clarke.

"As a player against whom I have competed on many occasions, I wouldn't have thought he had it in him to become a soccer boss.

"However, I must hold up my hand and admit I was wrong. He is doing a fabulous job with Barnsley, who have never been out of the top three in the Fourth Division since he took over."

Only 'the best' good enough for Forest

A BREAK in the transfer market. That is Peter Taylor's (right) plea for 1979.

Domestic rivalry between Nottingham Forest and neighbours Derby County prevented Brian Clough and his assistant, Taylor, from signing Charlie George. Wolves' manager, John Barnwell, also rejected Forest when they tried to sign midfielder man, Steve Daley.

"I could go out tomorrow and buy a player who would do a job," said Peter Taylor. "But that's not good enough. We will not accept second best."

Forest have not made a major signing since they snapped up David Needham from Queens Park Rangers more than a year ago. If they do make a new signing he will not be eligible for their European Cup Quarter-Final next month. The transfer deadline for that competition came and went in December.

Cup first-timers

THREE clubs, Bangor, Larne and Portadown, begin their quest for this season's Irish F.A. Cup this week-end (February 3rd) with a single aim — to win a trophy that has so far eluded them.

Larne, defeated by Willowfield, in 1928, and Glentoran, in 1935, and Bangor, who lost to Belfast Celtic, in 1938, both go back to pre-War days to their last Irish Cup Final appearances.

Portadown have fared better in the post-War era, losing to Linfield, in 1962, and Coleraine, a decade later, the first two Final outings in the Shamrock Parkers' history. Will 1979 see a change of Cup Final luck for one of this hitherto Cupless provincial trio?

Second chance

AFTER being threatened with expulsion from the League of Ireland, Cork Celtic sorted out their prolonged legal wrangle, and by paying the £800 owed to the FAI they have been given another chance.

However, more trouble for the turbulent Republic of Ireland side. They lost the points for their win over Thurles Town because they played un-registered players and still have to play their home games at Flower Lodge because Turner's Cross is still unplayable.

History of Norwich

JOHN Bond, Martin Peters and Duncan Forbes are among the contributors to an 80-page illustrated history of Norwich City, just been published at £1.95 a copy.

BOLTON are hoping to form a Junior Whites Club on the same lines as Manchester City's Junior Blues.

Boys between the ages of ten and 14 will be invited to Burnden Social Club on Monday nights.



Aston Villa new signing Dave Cunningham, a winger transferred from Swindon and striker Joe Ward (right), from Clyde met TV star Leslie Crowther at a snooker tournament in Birmingham recently.

FACTastic

LAST season Hereford United scored only six goals in their 23 away Division Three games, finishing goalless in 17 of those matches. But even that was not a record. In the 1923-24 season Exeter City scored only four goals in 21 Third Division (South) away games, and created a League record by playing in 14 consecutive away fixtures without achieving one solitary goal. Even so they finished well clear of the foot of the table.

Youngsters Jim McIntyre and Derek Brown have been signed by Glasgow Rangers.

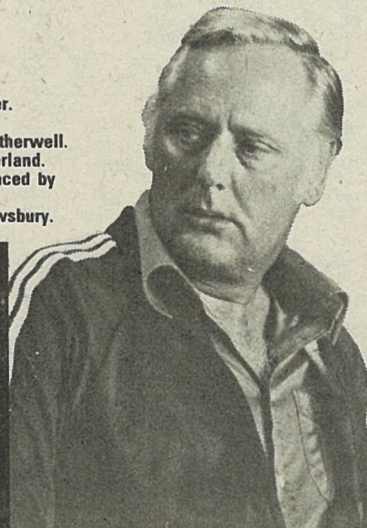
McIntyre has played for Ayr Boys Club and comes from Catrine, Central Ayrshire. Brown from Edinburgh plays for Broxburn Athletic.

December moves

Milija Aleksic (Luton to Spurs)
Paul Bowers (Cliftonville to Derby)
Dave Cunningham (Swindon to Aston Villa)
Phil Driver (Bedford to Wimbledon)
Jake Findlay (Aston Villa to Luton)
Steve Fox (Birmingham to Wrexham)
Charlie George (Derby to Southampton)
Tommy Graham (Aston Villa to Barnsley)
Steve Hamberger (Walthamstow to Orient)
Harry Holman (Exeter C. to Peterborough)
Garry Jones (Bolton to Blackpool)
Claran McCurry (Cliftonville to Luton)
Peter Marinello (Motherwell to Fulham)
Mick Martin (West Brom to Newcastle)
Paul Randall (Bristol R. to Stoke)
Alan Shoulder (Blyth Sp. to Newcastle)
Steve Sims (Leicester to Watford)
Bobby Smith (Hibernian to Leicester)
Ken Swain (Chelsea to Aston Villa)
Joe Ward (Clyde to Aston Villa)
David Webb (Leicester to Derby)

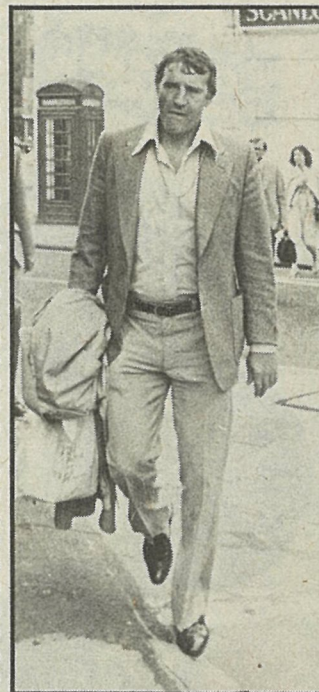
MANAGERS

Ken Shellito resigned as manager Chelsea.
Danny Blanchflower appointed Chelsea manager.
Richie Morgan appointed manager Cardiff C.
Ally MacLeod left Ayr U. to become manager Motherwell.
Billy Elliott appointed caretaker-manager Sunderland.
Alan Ashman sacked as manager Walsall replaced by Frank Sibley, ex-manager Q.P.R.
Graham Turner appointed player-manager Shrewsbury.



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Plus: Eddie Gray (Leeds). Micky Burns (Boro). Joe Jordan and Andy Ritchie (Man. United). Paul Fletcher (Burnley). Stewart Rennie (Motherwell). Drew Busby (Hearts) and Super-sellers Hibs.

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Liverpool v. Borussia MGB
- 1977 BATTLE OF THE GIANTS
Manchester Utd v. Liverpool
- 1977 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Villa's Hat-trick.
- 1976 UEFA CUP
Liverpool v. Bruges
- 1976 FA CUP FINAL
Super Saints!
- 1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Man. City v. Newcastle
- 1976 KINGS OF SCOTLAND
Rangers v. Hearts
- 1975 F.A. CUP FINAL
Hail To The Hammers!
- 1975 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Viva The Villa!
- 1974 F.A. CUP FINAL
Liverpool's Cup
- 1974 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wonderful Wolves!
- 1973 F.A. CUP FINAL
Sunderland's Cup
- 1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Norwich
- 1972 F.A. CUP FINAL
Leeds v. Arsenal
- 1972 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Salute to Stoke!
- 1971 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Liverpool
- 1971 EURO CUP WINNERS
Chelsea v. R. Madrid
- 1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Aston Villa
- 1970 F.A. CUP FINAL
Chelsea's Cup
- 1966/70 WORLD CUP
Finals & Semi-Finals
- 1968 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Man. Utd. v. Benfica
- CELTIC SOUVENIR
Celtic 1953 to 1970

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*1976 Southampton 1, Man. Utd 0	200ft
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*1975 West Ham 2, Fulham 0	200ft
Also col SOUND £17.20	
*1974 Liverpool 3, Newcastle 0	200ft
Also col SOUND £17.20	
*1973 Sunderland 1, Leeds 0	200ft
Also col SOUND £17.20	
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1973 Semi: Leeds 1, Wolves 0	100ft
*1972 Leeds 1, Arsenal 0	100ft
*1971 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1	200ft
1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1	100ft
1969 Man City 1, Leicester 0	100ft
1968 WBA 1, Everton 0	200ft
1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1	200ft
1966 Everton 3, Sheff. Wed. 2	300ft
1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1	200ft
1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2	200ft
1963 Man. Utd 3, Leicester 1	200ft
1962 Spurs 3, Burnley 1	100ft
1960 Wolves 3, Blackburn 0	100ft
1959 Nott'ham F. 2, Luton 1	100ft
1958 Bolton 2, Man. Utd. 0	100ft
1957 Aston Villa 2, Man. Utd. 1	100ft
1953 Blackpool 4, Bolton 3	100ft
1954 to 1956 also available	100ft

WORLD CUP

*1978 Scotland v Wales/Czechoslovakia	400ft
Also col SOUND £33	
*1974 W. Germany 2, Holland 1	200ft

*1974 W. Germany 4, Sweden 2	200ft
*1974 Holland 2, Brazil 0	200ft
*1974 Holland 4, Argentina 0	200ft
*1974 Holland 4, Bulgaria 1	200ft
*1974 Yugoslavia 9, Zaire 0	200ft
*1974 Sweden 2, Yugoslavia 1	200ft
Above films also available in 400ft b/w and colour silent; 400ft b/w and colour sound.	
*1970 Brazil 4, Italy 1	200ft
*1970 Italy 4, W. Germany 3	200ft
*1970 England 2, W. Germany 3	200ft
*1966 England 4, W. Germany 2	200ft & 400ft
Also colour sound 200ft	
1966 England 2, Portugal 1	200ft
1966 Hungary 3, Brazil 1	200ft
1966 Korea 3, Portugal 5	200ft
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*1978 Liverpool 1, Bruges 0	200ft/400ft
Also 400ft Col SOUND £33	
*1977 Liverpool 3, Borussia MGB 1	200ft/300ft
Also 200ft col SOUND £17.20	
Also 300ft col SOUND £26.25	
*1976 B. Munich 1, St. Etienne 0	200ft/400ft
Also 400ft b/w and colour sound	
*1975 B. Munich 2, Leeds 0	150ft
1972 Ajax 2, Inter Milan 0	200ft/400ft
1971 Ajax 2, Panathinaikos 0	100ft
1969 Milan 4, Ajax 1	200ft
1968 Man. Utd. 4, Benfica 1	200ft/400ft
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1968 Man. Utd. 3, Madrid 3 (semi-final)	200ft
1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1	200ft/400ft
1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1	200ft
1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1	200ft
1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3	200ft/400ft

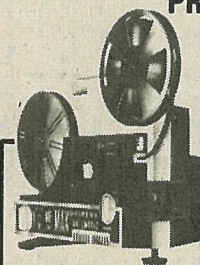
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

1963 Spurs 5, At. Madrid 1	200ft
1965 West Ham 2, TSV Munich 0	200ft

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

*1978 Nott'ham F. 1, Liverpool 0	200ft
Also col SOUND £17.20	
*1977 Aston V. 3, Everton 2	200ft
Also col SOUND £17.20	
*1976 Man. City 2, Newcastle 1	200ft
*1975 Aston Villa 1, Norwich 0	100ft
*1974 Wolves 2, Man. City 1	100ft
1973 Spurs 1, Norwich 0	100ft
1972 Stoke 2, Chelsea 1	200ft
1971 Spurs 2, Aston V. 0	50ft
1967 Q.P.R. 3, W.B.A. 2	200ft

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*1976 Czechoslovakia 7, W. Germany 5	400ft
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LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

1968 Newcastle 3, Man. City 4	200ft
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INTERNATIONALS

*1977 Scotland 2, England 1	400ft
also 400ft col SOUND	
*1977 England 2, Italy 0	200ft
also 200ft col SOUND	
*1977 England 0, Holland 2	200ft/400ft
Also 200ft/400ft col SOUND	
1976 Scotland 2, England 1	200ft/400ft
also 400ft b/w SOUND	
1975 England 5, Scotland 1	200ft
also 400ft b/w SOUND	
1969 England 4, Scotland 1	200ft
1967 Scotland 3, England 2	400ft
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1976 Rangers 3, Hearts 1	200ft/400ft
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*1973 Rangers 3, Celtic 2	200ft
*1972 Celtic 6, Hibs 1	100ft

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EMLYN Hughes, with over 700 games behind him for Liverpool and England in the past 11 years, has been fighting all season to overcome knee trouble which threatens his career. But the 31-year-old Anfield skipper promises he will see plenty of soccer action in the last half of the season.

"There was an eight-week spell before Christmas when I had only three games of any importance — for England, Liverpool and Liverpool reserves," says Hughes. "There were problems with my knee which were brought on by wear and tear.

"There's a pad of gristle which the knee rests upon, and this has worn thin during the years due to constant friction. But in December I was back in full-time training, and by the start of the year, was in the first team."

The fighting spirit, which has helped him lead Liverpool to more triumphs than any other

per cent fit. He has a big heart."

It is Hughes' determination to reach peak fitness that has driven him to endure solitary training sessions on the sands.

In his honour-studded spell with Liverpool, Hughes includes the medal he gained against Arsenal in the F.A. Cup Final, even though it was a loser's. That was the moment that ushered in the fabulous Seventies for the Merseysiders, an era in which Hughes has been a leading figure in the club's triumphs.

Now, Hughes is at the crossroads of his career with Liverpool, and England, whom he first represented against Holland in 1969. But Hughes, a fitness fanatic at Anfield, could be one player who will be hard to write-off.

Long may he reign.

'CRAZY HORSE' AT THE CROSSROADS

captain in the history of the club, will be a highly important asset to the Merseyside star in his fight for full fitness. He sees his club as being among the honours again, and in 1979, wants to be part of the squad.

"Any team that wants to win the First Division Championship has to contend with Liverpool," says Emlyn. "We are the side to beat, with clubs like Everton, Nottingham Forest and West Bromwich going all out to finish ahead of us.

"Everton have already proved they are hard to shake off in the title race, and possess strength in depth. Forest, who lost their unbeaten record at Anfield, were without Kenny Burns and Tony Woodcock on that occasion, and these players, along with Peter Shilton, are key-men in their team. Forest are still a force to be reckoned with.

Number One

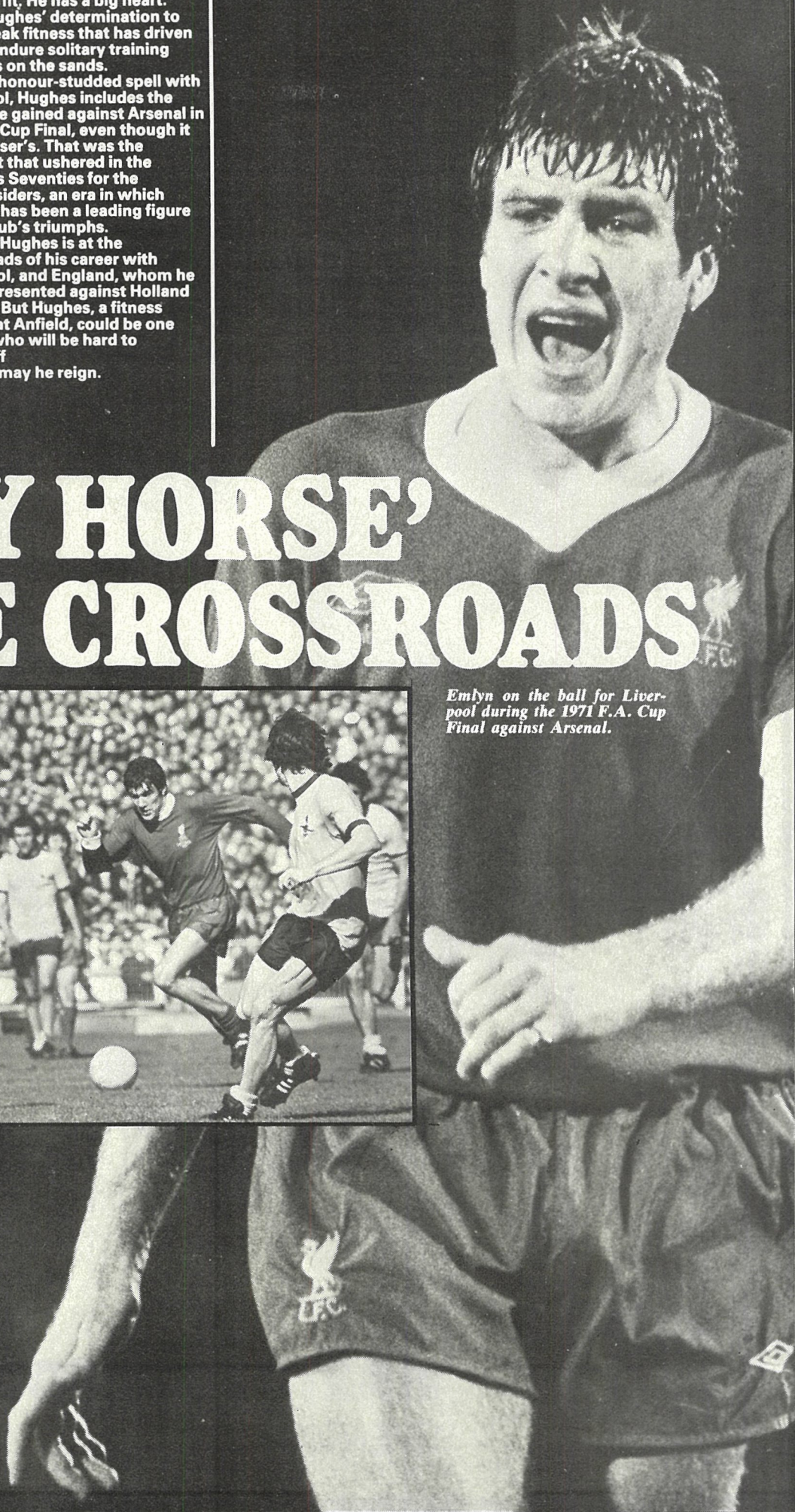
"I've also been very impressed with West Bromwich. If they lack anything it is the pool of players that is available to Everton and Liverpool. This is one of the reasons for Liverpool being number one contenders in the League."

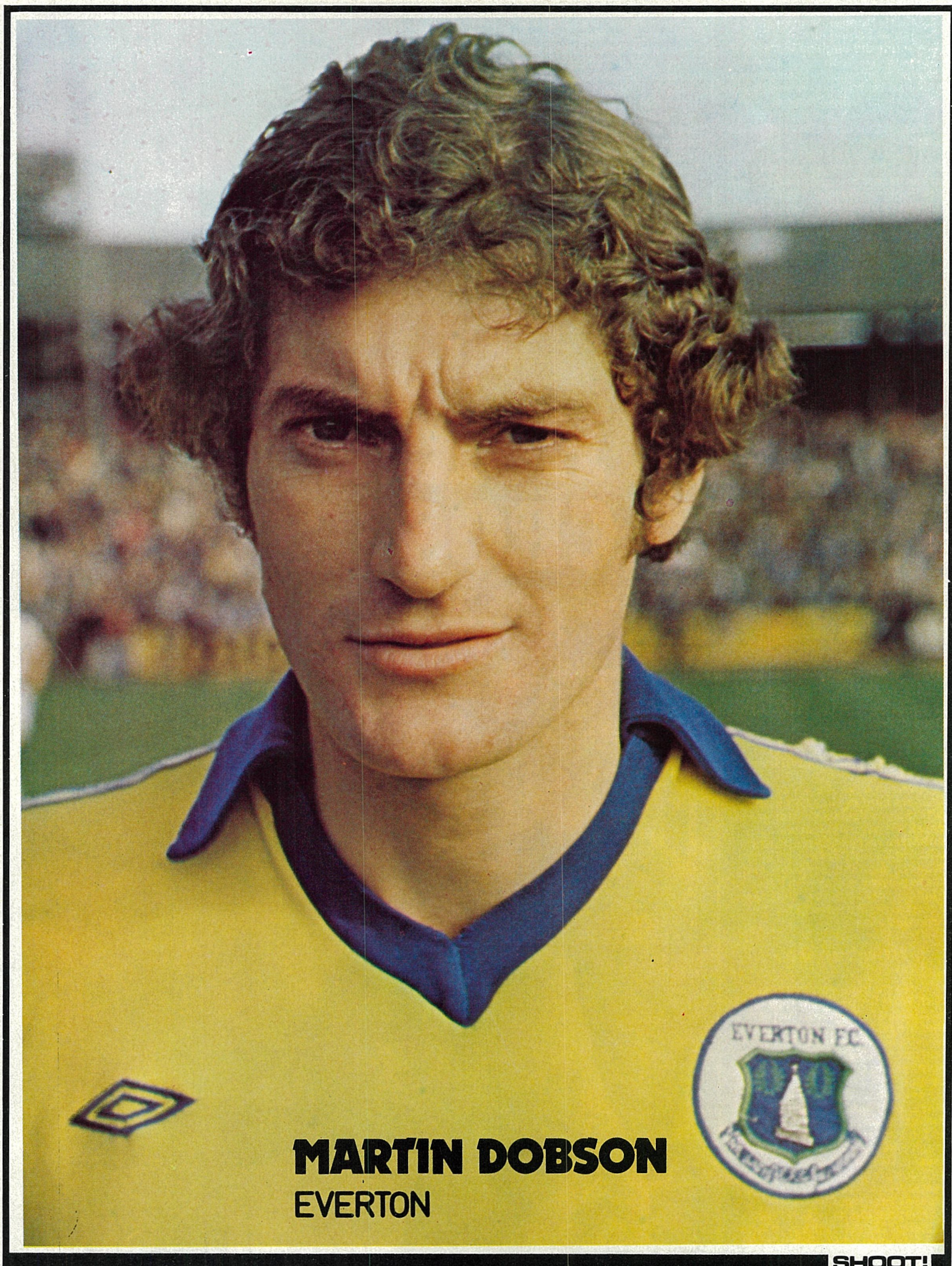
For Hughes, and any Liverpool player who appears regularly in the first team, success at home and in European competitions can mean playing in 60 or 70 games a season. He has adhered to this arduous programme over many years, which is responsible for his present knee trouble.

Liverpool manager Bob Paisley explains: "Emlyn is the type who will play even when he is not 100



Emlyn on the ball for Liverpool during the 1971 F.A. Cup Final against Arsenal.

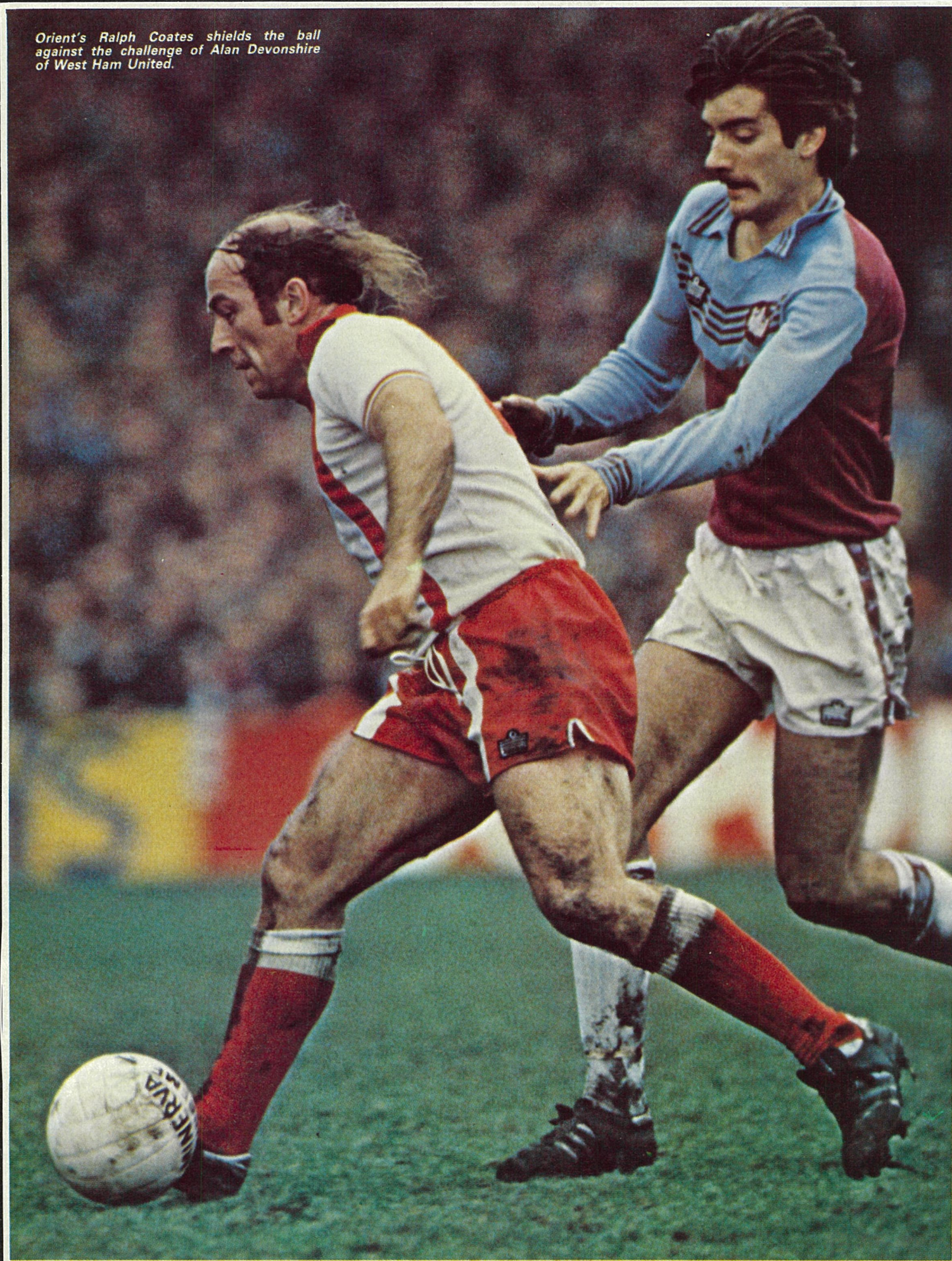




MARTIN DOBSON
EVERTON

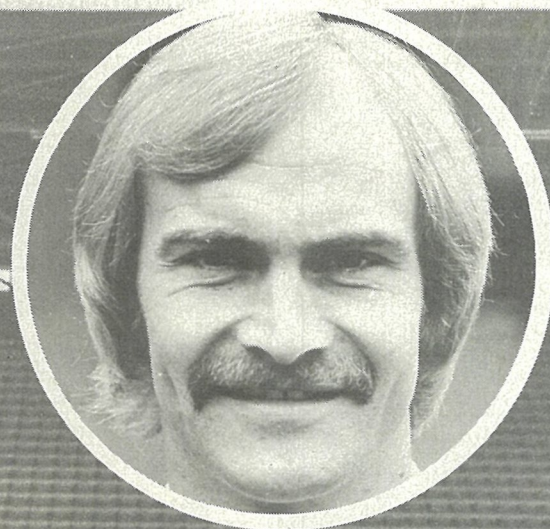
SHOOT!

*Orient's Ralph Coates shields the ball
against the challenge of Alan Devonshire
of West Ham United.*



SHOOT!

THE MICK MILLS PLAN TO REVOLUTIONISE OUR FOOTBALL



THE big freeze that put football into cold storage at the turn of the year will mean a hectic end to the season.

Clubs will be compelled to play at least twice a week at a time when they may also be involved in more than one competition to clear the fixture chaos.

And playing resources will be stretched as clubs encounter the inevitable crop of injuries and weakened sides will be left to fight it out to decide vital issues like promotion and relegation.

Is this situation necessary? Could the football authorities not put their heads together and come up with a plan to counteract the problem of trying to play too much football in too short a space of time?

One leading player with positive thoughts on the subject is Ipswich captain and England international Mick Mills who has drawn up his own battle plans to revolutionise our soccer.

He says: "I'd like to see a major reconstruction carried out within the Football League. The present system is out of date and not suited to the people who play the game or pay to watch.

"One improvement I'd favour is a two-week shutdown around the Christmas and New Year period with no football. This would enable players to join in the festive fun with their families just like everyone else.

"But if there was no football for a fortnight we'd need to reduce the number of games over the course of the season and this in turn would mean cropping the number of teams in the Leagues.

"My solution would be to reduce the First and Second Divisions to 16 clubs, have 20 clubs in the Third

Referee John Homewood tests the Fulham pitch before postponing their F.A. Cup-tie against Q.P.R.

Division and then split the Fourth Division into two sections, North and South, with 20 clubs in each."

Mills feels a new-look First Division, and to a lesser extent the Second, would mean more competitive football, bigger crowds and less of a gap between the top and the bottom.

He continues: "Up in Scotland their Premier Division looks a winner with only a few points separating the Championship contenders from the clubs fighting against relegation.

"I know a lot of people put it down to a decline by Rangers and Celtic, but maybe it means they're getting a tough match every week and this has brought about a gen-

eral levelling in standards.

"I've heard it suggested we should adopt the Continental system of closing down for a couple of months to beat the bad weather. But the trouble in this country is pinpointing exactly when we'd be getting the worst weather.

"The more I think about it the more I realise the best answer is to reduce the number of games. This way, if there are a few postponements, there would be more time in which to get them played.

"Spare weeks could be used for international get-togethers for Ron Greenwood and the other managers who don't really get as much time as they would like with their players."

Mills feels a 16-club First Division would also give the top clubs more breathing space. "They're the ones who get involved in long Cup runs, have players selected for international games and generally suffer more headaches," he says.

"The pressure would be off them to some extent and I could see the Second Division becoming a very good League with virtually every club having a chance of gaining promotion.

"Down in the Third and Fourth Divisions I'd like to encourage the top non-League sides to become members automatically on merit rather than depending on a certain number of votes at the annual general meeting.

"Why not promotion from the Northern and Southern Leagues? There are clubs full of ambition who deserve a chance and let's face it, the clubs who have been elected over the past few years have done well enough!

"A lot of League clubs battle on, year in and year out, getting nowhere fast and playing to crowds that get smaller and smaller. Maybe a couple of years in non-League football would give them a chance to rebuild and if they were pushing for promotion again to League status they would soon attract the spectators."

Mills would like to see the Football League adopt his plan and the reconstruction to take effect from the start of the 1980-81 season. "This would give clubs one season to find their level," he says.

"Our football needs a boost and I think a new system would benefit everyone — the players, the administrators and, perhaps most important of all, the fans who often tend to be the last people to be considered."



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1 A goalkeeper catches a long through ball and then rolls it towards his team-mate, who is in his own penalty-area. He then kicks the ball up-field, should you ... (a) award an indirect free-kick against defending player as the ball had not gone out of the area, or (b) wave play on?

2 In a Football League match, the captain gives you the team sheet before the match. When the team comes on to the field you notice a certain player's number does not correspond with the team sheet. Can you ... (a) demand him to change his jersey, (b) take no action and report him to the authority, or (c) take no action?

3 From a corner-kick the ball hits the post and rebounds to the kicker who promptly scores, should you ... award (a) a goal or (b) an indirect free-kick?

4 Just before a kick-off a player brings your attention to an opponent who is wearing a dangerous wrist band, should you ... (a) take no notice and carry on with the kick-off, (b) ask the player to remove the dangerous wrist band and wait until he returns before kicking-off or (c) demand the player goes off the field to change the band and do not hold up the kick-off?

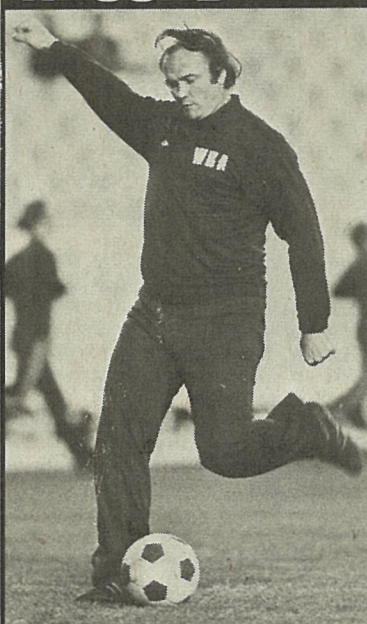
5 Should a match be started if the goal-lines are not marked between the goal-posts ... (a) yes or (b) no?

ANSWERS

1. Wave play on (b). 2. Take no action (c). 3. Indirect free-kick (b). 4. Demand the player goes off the field to change the band and do not hold up the kick-off (c). 5. I understand something like this happened in the World Cup Final at Buenos Aires, but as I was on my way home I never saw the game. Incidentally as that was the second World Cup Final I missed I cannot really comment except to say I would never hold up the kick-off. 5. No (b).

West Brom manager, Ron Atkinson, champions his defender's bid for international call-up:

'ROBERTSON-BEST SCOTTISH CENTRE BACK AROUND'



thorns 12 months ago, I must confess, Robertson was not one of the names really known to me. But in the first match I saw at Middlesbrough I was very impressed with his performance and he just keeps going.

SINCE the start of the season Ron Atkinson (above) has been proclaiming the virtue of Ally Robertson as the player best suited to wear the number six shirt for Scotland.

But so far his eulogies appear to have fallen on stony ground North of the Border.

Former Scotland manager Ally MacLeod watched Albion primarily to assess winger Willie Johnston before the abortive World Cup mission to Argentina and it is still remarkable in certain Albion quarters that the form of Robertson did not attract more attention.

There is no doubt that Robertson has been one of Albion's most consistent players in their chase for first major honour since their FA Cup triumph 11 years ago.

High in the Championship table and already in the Quarter-Finals of the UEFA Cup, Albion have been tagged the most exciting team in the country, but it has been the solid work of Robertson and co-defenders John Wile, Brendon Batson and Derek Statham that has not gone unnoticed.

Atkinson is adamant. He says: "Robertson has to be the best Scottish centre-back in the game today. He is dependable with excellent anticipation and it is a constant source of amazement to me that he has not been called up by Scotland."

"Things might change in the future because the new Scottish team manager Jock Stein had a good close up of him in our three League Cup matches when he was manager of Leeds."

"When I arrived at the Haw-

The only time you really notice him is when he makes a mistake — and that is not very often. I have seen most of the top contenders for the two central defensive positions in the Scottish squad and Robertson is the best."

Praise indeed — but Robertson is not allowing it to go to his head. You will not find him shouting from the rooftops that his performances warrant a Scottish call-up.

He says: "I am amazed when I read or I am told that I am now playing better than at any time during my first team career at Albion. I am obviously more experienced than when I first came into the side, but my performances by and large are no different than when Albion went into the Second Division."

"The big difference now, of course is the team performance. I play in a great back four. Everyone knows his job."

"We get plenty of support from our midfield, who drop back to allow the defenders to pick them out with clearances. It is team work and I am part of that team. Of course, I would love to play for my country. What professional wouldn't, but it is up to other people to say that, not me."

Robertson's record for Albion is exceptional. Apart from a two game ban midway through last season, he has chalked up more than 130 appearances since winning his place back at the tail end of the 1974-75 season.

During that campaign, Robertson was ready to ask for a move.

Atkinson must be counting his lucky stars that Robertson stayed at Albion.

AFTER missing so many games during 1978, I didn't believe things could get any worse. I was wrong. Two days before I was scheduled to make my comeback for Aston Villa against Nottingham Forest, I was training and slipped in the mud.

I was twisting and turning . . . and as I fell I twisted my knee. I realised right away that I'd torn a cartilage; perhaps I had torn it very slightly against Luton Town in the League Cup, when I damaged ankle ligaments, but I was feeling really good in training until that injury.

I had a cartilage operation — on the same right knee — as a Dundee United player and wasn't surprised when the club specialist told me an operation was necessary.

I was sick. I'd worked so hard to get fit, going through what was almost a second pre-season stint. I've played just 12 games this season and was itching to get back into action.

Instead, I entered hospital on the Wednesday for my operation.

At 6.30 a.m. on the Thursday morning I was woken up — I thought there must have been a fire! Half past six in the morning! I had tea and toast at seven and was allowed nothing more to eat or drink before my op at two o'clock.

I was very worried. Cartilage operations are painful and even if you can make a relatively quick recovery, initially your knee feels like a bus has run over it!

What if something went wrong? What if my run of bad luck got

worse? Many things went through my mind that morning.

At one o'clock I was given the pre-op injection, which makes you very dry. Forty-five minutes later I was wheeled to the operating theatre and I remember signing autographs for doctors and nurses a few minutes before I went "out"!

I was given another injection and counted eight seconds on the clock before it took effect. The next I knew it was 11 p.m., and my leg felt like a balloon.

I had a drip attached to the knee and if there's one thing worse than

**ANDY
GRAY**
Writes for you

the sight of blood, it's the sight of your own blood! I was feeling pretty low, in some pain, but as I'd just come out of the anaesthetic I couldn't have a sleeping pill. My leg was so sore I didn't, in fact, sleep until Friday night.

On the Friday morning I began lifting the leg — the road to recovery couldn't begin early enough. A few of the lads popped in to visit me, and that certainly raised my spirits.

I asked if I could go home the next day and was discharged on the



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(Left) "Injured against Luton Town in the League Cup."
(Right) "On crutches after taking a tumble against Everton a year ago."

glowing terms, it can't help but give you a boost.

My luck must surely change. I've got over the depression and now all I want to do is to get back into action. I miss the day-to-day involvement of full-time training, and as the world's worst spectator I don't go to see the lads play.

Bad patch

It used to hurt me when people said I was injury prone. Now, it goes in one ear and out the other. In fact, it's become rather boring. I feel I'm just going through a bad patch. The same has been said of other players and they've bounced back, which is exactly what I mean to do.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect, for me, personally, has been that I've had to miss Scotland's game against Belgium. Regular



seat, having won in Austria.

Scotland badly need a good result and performance to give us something to build on. Although we beat Norway 3-2, the performance was hardly convincing and we were a little fortunate to scrape home 3-2.

Jock Stein has been quoted as saying that "too many of the players are used to losing" and changes may be on the cards.

Worrying

I doubt whether we'll see too many, but he obviously has the 1982 World Cup in mind and will want to build his side before then.

The most worrying aspect is our away form. I forget the last time we won away from Hampden, and I don't count matches against the other British sides as "away" victories.

The fans and Press are becoming disillusioned and it's up to the team to raise everyone's confidence again.

Join me again in a fortnight.

'TOO MANY INJURIES - BUT I SHAN'T CHANGE MY STYLE'

Saturday.

As I write, I have no date fixed for a return. I'm impatient, but there is no way I'm going to rush and risk more damage.

Having had a cartilage operation before, I know pretty well what to do and what progress I ought to be making. I'm happy with the way things are going and I'm hoping to be back sometime next month, but I'll think about that nearer the date.

Despite this latest set-back, I stand by what I said in SHOOT recently: that I shan't be changing my style. All I've ever achieved has been accomplished by going in where it hurts. I can't see myself altering.

Dived in

The tackle that started it all was against Luton, a 70-30 ball in favour of the Luton defender. I suppose I should have let him clear it... but you know me! Maybe it was stupid. I dived in and, well, you know the rest.

I can't say that I'd never do it again. No player can ever say he definitely won't do this or that. With 40,000 fans roaring you on, you do things on the spur of the moment and I know I'll be as competitive as ever.

It was good to hear Brian Clough praising me on television, saying it was bravery that had caused my injuries. When someone like Brian Clough talks about you in such

SHOOT readers will know how upset I was to miss out on the World Cup Finals. I've fought so hard to get back into the international reckoning and after playing against Austria and Norway this season I had hoped to make the number nine shirt my own.

I hope Jock Stein won't forget me. I doubt if he will, he's not that

sort of manager. I should get quite a few games under my belt before the British Championship comes round in May, so my fingers are crossed.

In the meantime, Scotland take on Belgium, at Hampden Park, next week in a game we simply can't afford to even draw, let alone lose. Group Two is still very wide open, even if Portugal are in the driving

Kenny Dalglish



(Right) "Kenny Dalglish shoots but Scotland lost 3-2 in Austria."

RESULTS... SCORERS... TEAM LINE-UPS

SATURDAY, DEC. 30

Continued

THIRD DIVISION

BRENTFORD 0
CARLISLE 0 6,480
Brentford: Bond; Salman, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Graham (J), Carlton, Glover, Smith, Alder, Phillips.

Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney (Lumby), MacDonald, Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Ludlam, Kemp, Hamilton.

BURY 0
MANSFIELD 0 4,009
Bury: Forrest; Lugg, Kennedy, Wilson, Tucker, Bailey, Stanton, Hamstead, Beamish, Gregory (Johnson), Taylor.
Mansfield: Arnold; Dawkins, Wood, Bird, Saxby, McClelland, Miller (Allen), Martin, Syrett, Foster (C), Goodwin.

EXETER (2) 3 (Sims 2, Pearson)
LINCOLN (0) 2 (Hobson, Cockerill) 3,810
Exeter: O'Keefe; Templeman, Roberts, Randall, Giles, Hore, Neville, Pearson, Sims, Delve, Hatch.
Lincoln: Turner; Guest, Leigh, Fleming, Wigginton, Smith, Cockerill, Ward, Harford, Watson (Hobson), Neale.

GILLINGHAM (1) 2 (Nicholl, Westwood)
PLYMOUTH (0) 0 5,951
Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Armstrong, Overton, Weatherley, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Jolley, Westwood, Richardson.
Plymouth: Burns; Bason (Chapman), McNeill, Hodges, Foster, Clarke, Fear, Megson, Binney, Harrison, Silkman.

OXFORD (1) 2 (Seacole, Fogg)
WALSALL (0) 1 (Serella) 4,231
Oxford: Burton; Taylor, Fogg, Briggs, Bodel, Jeffrey, Graydon, Duncan, Foley, Seacole, Hodgson (Berry).
Walsall: Kearns; Paul, Caswell, Harrison, Serella, King, Birch, Waddington (S), Austin, McDonough, Macken.

PETERBOROUGH (0) 0
SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Laverick) 3,731
Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Styles, Doyle, Green, Ross, Robertson, Holman, Butlin, Sargent, Robson.
Southend: Cawston; Stead, Yates, Laverick, Hadley, Moody, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Dudley, Fell.



Larry May smashed home Leicester's first goal against Norwich City during their 3-0 F.A. Cup win.

SWANSEA (0) 1 (Charles) 12,549
BLACKPOOL (0) 0
Swansea: Crudgington; Evans, Smith, Phillips, Stevenson, Charles, Toshack, James, Curtis, Boersma (Baker), Callaghan.
Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, Pashley, Thompson, Suddaby, McEwan, Kellow, Ronson, Spence, Davidson, Wagstaffe (Jones).

WATFORD (0) 2 (Blissett 2)
SWINDON (0) 0 15,486
Watford: Sherwood; Stirk, Harrison, Bolton, Sims, Garner, Joslyn, Blissett, Jenkins, Train, Mayes (Pollard).
Swindon: Ogden; McLaughlin, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller, Carter, Gilchrist (Williams), Bates, Kamara.

Postponed: Chester v. Rotherham; Chesterfield v. Shrewsbury; Hull v. Colchester.

FOURTH DIVISION

BRADFORD C. (0) 2 (Dolan, Baines)
BOURNEMOUTH (1) 1 (Brown, R.) 4,026
Bradford C: Downsbrough; Podd, Watson, Reaney, Middleton, Wood, Bates, Dolan, Baines, McNiven, Hutchins.
Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Barton, Borthwick, MacDougall, Scott, Massey, Brown (K).

NEWPORT (0) 1 (Goddard pen.)
PORT VALE (0) 0 4,104
Newport: Plumley; Walden, Byrne, Thompson, Davies, Bruton, Warriner, Lowndes, Goddard, Woods (Relish), Vaughan.
Port Vale: Connaughton, Keenan, Bentley, Delgado, Harris, Hawkins, Todd, Farrell, Wright, Sinclair, Proudlove.

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Reilly, McCaffrey)
HALIFAX (1) 1 (Nixon) 2,208
Northampton: Jayes; Walker (Bowen), Mead, Geidmintis, Robertson, Bryant, Farrington, Williams, Froggatt, Reilly, McCaffrey.
Halifax: Leonard; Bradley, Hutt, Smith, Sidebottom, Dunleavy, Nixon, Stafford (Mountford), Campbell, Kennedy, Loska.

SCUNTHORPE (0) 0
ROCHDALE (2) 4 (Jones, Hoy 2, Owen) 2,620
Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Pilling, Oates (Wigg), Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Earl, Keeley, Kavanagh.
Rochdale: Felgate; Taylor, Creamer, Scaife, Scott, Hart, Hoy, O'Loughlin, Jones, Owen, Esser.

WIGAN (2) 3 (Moore, Houghton 2)
ALDRSHOT (1) 2 (McGregor, Wooler) 7,289
Wigan: Grew; Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan, Wright, Moore, Houghton, Purdie.
Aldershot: Johnson; Howitt, Wooler, Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Crosby, Longhorn, Needham, Dungworth, McGregor.

Postponed: Barnsley v. Grimsby; Doncaster v. Hereford; Huddersfield v. Torquay; Reading v. Hartlepool; Wimbledon v. Darlington; York v. Crewe.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Harper)
MORTON (0) 2 (Ritchie, McNeill) 8,000
Aberdeen: Clark; Kennedy, McLelland, McMaster, Rougvie, Miller, Strachan (Cooper), Archibald, Harper, Sullivan, Scanlon (Fleming).
Morton: Broic; Hayes, Anderson, McLaren, Orr, Rooney, McNeill, Hutchinson, Thomson, Ritchie, Miller.

Postponed: Celtic v. Hearts; Hibs v. Rangers; Partick v. Dundee U; St. Mirren v. Motherwell.

MONDAY, JAN. 1

FIRST DIVISION

BOLTON (1) 1 (Worthington)
EVERTON (1) 1 (Ross) abandoned at half-time 33,011

W.B.A. (2) 3 (Brown, A. 2, Wile)
BRISTOL C (1) 1 (Cormack pen.) 31,593
W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown, (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Cunningham.
Bristol C: Shaw; Sweeney, Gillies, Gow, Rodgers, Collier, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Cormack, Whitehead.

SECOND DIVISION

LEICESTER (2) 2 (Buchanan, Smith)
OLDHAM (0) 0 12,757
Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe, Williams, May, Ridley, Lineker, Goodwin, Henderson, Buchanan, Smith.
Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Edwards, Heaton, Holt, Hurst, Valentine, Halom, Young (Steel), Chapman, Gardner.

FOURTH DIVISION

PORT VALE (0) 1 (Wright)
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0 4,021
Port Vale: Connaughton; Keenan, Bentley, Delgado, Harris, Hawkins, Stenson (Elsby), Farrell, Wright, Todd, Proudlove.
Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Sandercock, Gray, Topping, Sutton, Ripley, Hart (Bielby), Cowling, Robins, Howey.

Postponed: all other scheduled matches.

SATURDAY, JAN 6

F.A. CUP Third Round

LEICESTER (2) 3 (May, Weller, Henderson)
NORWICH (0) 0 19,680
Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Williams, Ridley, May, O'Neill, Weller, Peake, Henderson, Goodwin, Buchanan.
Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Davies, Ryan, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Chivers, McGuire, Peters.

SHEFF. WED (0) 1 (Johnson)
ARSENAL (1) 1 (Sunderland) 33,635
Sheff. W: Turner; Blackhall, Rushbury, Smith, Mullen, Johnson, Wyld, Porterfield, Leman, Lowey, Hornsby.
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Walford, Price, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Gattling, Rix.

SHREWSBURY (1) 3 (Maguire, Turner, Chapman)
CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Biley) 7,415
Shrewsbury: Wardle; King, Larkin, Turner, Griffin, Keay, Chapman, Atkins, Tong, Biggins, Maguire.
Cambridge: Webster; Streete, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Buckley, Murray, Spriggs, Leach (Garner), Finney, Biley.



West Bromwich Albion's John Wile got his name on the score sheet when he netted against Bristol City.

STOKE (2) 2 (Irvine 2)
OLDHAM (0) 0 abandoned at half-time 15,991

Postponed: all other scheduled matches.

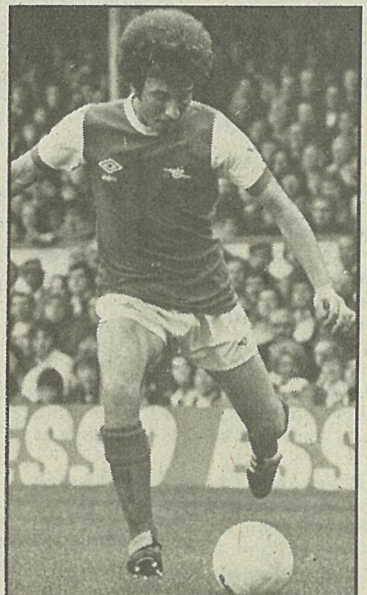
THIRD DIVISION

WALSALL (1) 1 (Caswell)
HULL (0) 2 (Galvin 2) 4,061
Walsall: Kearns; Paul, Caswell, Macken, Serella, Harrison, Birch, Waddington, Austin, McDonough, Kelly.
Hull: Blackburn; Nisbet, Devries, Dobson, Croft, Haigh, Galvin, Lord, Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

WATFORD (2) 2 (Blissett 2)
LINCOLN (0) 0 12,132
Watford: Sherwood; Stirk, Pritchett, Joslyn, Sims, Garner, Pollard, Blissett, Jenkins, Train, Bolton.
Lincoln: Sivell; Guest, Leigh, Fleming, Wigginton, Smith, Cockerill, Ward, Harford, Neale (Hobson), Harding.

Postponed: all other scheduled matches.

**CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.
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Alan Sunderland opened the scoring during Arsenal's first F.A. Cup draw with Sheffield Wednesday.



Southend's Mike Laverick scored the only goal of the game against Peterborough.



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Last week **SHOOT** selected a First Division team based on current form. Now we take a look at the men in Division Two.

THE arguments about three-up and three-down between the First and Second Divisions are certain to rage for a good time to come, but one offshoot of the system has been beneficial to the lower Division — the opportunity to see more quality players.

With clubs like Tottenham, West Ham, Wolves and Chelsea having suffered relegation where they might not have done before, the Second Division has been graced with the talents of players such as Glenn Hoddle, John Richards, Trevor Brooking, Ray Wilkins and Mike Channon, in his Southampton days.

Relegation may not have been good for individual players but it certainly gives fans more opportunity to see star names they would hitherto not have seen.

This is to some extent reflected in our choice of a Second Division team based on players who have been in splendid form so far this season.

We had to think long and hard about the goalkeeper, because the standard of 'keeping is so high in this country.

The rise of Crystal Palace to the top of the Second Division has been coincidental with the arrival of that great character John Burridge from Aston Villa.

Crowd pleaser

A fitness fanatic, John has shown tremendous agility this season, but apart from being a crowd-pleaser he is also the most capable goalkeeper Palace have had in years and could make the difference between First and Second Division football next season.

He's as big a favourite at Selhurst Park as John Jackson has become across the big city at Brisbane Road.

The veteran who did so much for Palace is now a star turn at Orient every week, and having inspired much of their run to the Cup Semi-Finals last season John is now just as consistent as Orient try to consolidate by improving their League status.

A third capital goalkeeper is Gerry Peyton, one of Fulham's least-publicised, yet most successful signings over recent years.

When he was at Burnley, Gerry was subject to comparison with great names of the past like Colin MacDonald and Adam Blacklaw, but he has carved his own particular niche at Craven Cottage, and has proved an extremely good buy.

Having considered this top trio from London, however, we finally came up with a number one from the Midlands — **MARK WALLINGTON** of Leicester City.

Mark has probably been helped by the fact he does a lot of work behind a hard pressed defence, and therefore gets the chance to shine.

The choice of right-back was equally difficult, though the field was not so strong.

That powerful, dependable and resolute Londoner Ray Evans, who gave such sterling service to Tot-

tenham before moving to Fulham was a strong contender, as was John Marsh once a member of a very effective Stoke City defence that included the incomparable Peter Shilton, England international Mike Pejic and the highly-efficient Mike Bernard.

The player we opted for ultimately, though, was a man whose side is having a bad season, yet who manages to maintain high standards week-in week-out — Blackburn's **KEVIN HIRD**.

Last year when things were going so well at Ewood Park, Hird and his full-back partner John Bailey were scrutinised closely by a number of clubs.

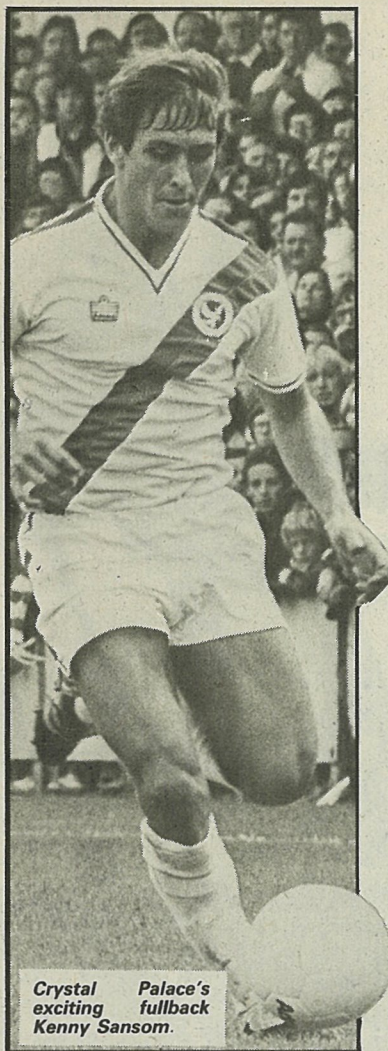
This season Brighton's manager Alan Mullery has wanted to attract both players to the Goldstone Ground, but at the moment Hird prefers to stay in his native Lancashire. His attitude may well change if the club is relegated to the Third Division, a distinct possibility.

For left-back we found it hard to look beyond the brilliant **KEN SANSOM** of Crystal Palace.

Surely destined to play for England, Sansom has now proved himself not only in the Second Division, but at Under-21 and "B" level in international football. Nothing, it seems, can stop him eventually wearing with pride the same white shirt that great left backs like Ray Wilson and Terry Cooper once occupied.

Ken stole the show for the Under-21's in Denmark. The score of journalists present were so impressed they forecast he would become the next England left-back.

Admittedly, he faces severe competition from West Brom's Derek Statham, but as far as our



Crystal Palace's exciting fullback Kenny Sansom.

Brighton's Republic of Ireland international **MARK LAWRENSON**.

Both in Second Division matches and in international football, Lawrenson has shown he can live with the best and it surely can't be long before he's playing regularly in the First Division, whether at Brighton or elsewhere.

Mark's selection for our side means there's no place for such as Frankie Prince, of Bristol Rovers (what a fine club man he's been), Billy Gilbert (another of the Palace prospects fast maturing) or Mike Doyle, proving to Manchester City there was still a lot of football in him when they let him go to Stoke.

Driving force

In midfield the options are almost as boundless as they were in the First Division. From youngsters like Terry Fenwick, a versatile member of the Crystal Palace squad, to Howard Kendall, a driving force behind the Stoke revival even in the twilight of his career, the choice is extremely varied.

Brighton's skipper Brian Horton is such a fierce competitor he must come into consideration for any side, but as our midfield driving force we chose a man of similar stature and temperament — West Ham's **BILLY BONDS**.

In his testimonial year Billy has done as much as anyone at Upton Park to inspire the sort of displays that are going to be needed if First Division football is to be regained.

One of the game's greatest fighters he has coaxed and cajoled the best from other players whose heads may have gone down without his inspiring leadership — and he's just the type we'd need in our side.

They're first-rate in

Second Division side is concerned Sansom is a clear winner ahead of Fulham's Les Strong and Blackburn's John Bailey.

Coming to the centre back position the picture is not so clear-cut.

One of the prime reasons for Cambridge United having done better in their first season of Second Division football than most people expected has been the form of Steve Fallon. His old boss Ron Atkinson still follows Fallon's progress with interest and we wouldn't be surprised if Fallon doesn't go to the Hawthorns once John Wile has retired.

A Scot, who has developed into one of the Second Division's best centre-halves is Jim Cannon of Crystal Palace. Jim has progressed so well since Terry Venables switched him to the centre of defence that he has recently been recommended for international honours. Jim's heading ability makes him as much of a nuisance to opposing defences as it does to forwards, and if Palace do go up it will be interesting to see how well he does at that level of the game.

Across at Fulham they reckon young Richard Money has been

worth every penny of the £50,000 fee Bobby Campbell paid to Scunthorpe only 18 months ago.

In that time Money has won the attentions of Ron Greenwood and Liverpool and his value has quadrupled.

But we've chosen **CHRIS TURNER** of Luton as our pivot, even though life hasn't always been easy since his summer move from Peterborough United.

Turner's leadership has helped the club through a transitional period and although the side has developed something of an eccentric nature his own form has never wavered.

After scoring a sackful of goals in early games at Kenilworth Road, The Hatters have unaccountably slipped up against seemingly weaker opposition since, yet still managed to reach the Quarter-Finals of the League Cup, as the improvement of their away form was highlighted by victory at Aston Villa.

To partner Turner at the heart of the defence we went for a man who increasingly wins the admiration of some of the most knowledgeable people in the game —

Having said that we couldn't really leave out his club-mate with so many outstanding skills **TREVOR BROOKING** even though he was injured for a spell this season.

It's to Trevor's enormous credit that although the Second Division is hardly the perfect setting for such a fine jewel, he has continued to display a high standard of effectiveness and West Ham owe him a great debt.

A far stronger player than he used to be, Trevor has nothing left to prove, and if only his finishing was a little better he'd be one of the world's top stars.

To complete the line-up in the middle we've chosen a much lesser known player, but one who has shown a great deal of talent in a club that doesn't get many headlines — **GRAHAM BELL** of Oldham Athletic.

A strong and determined forager Graham has won unstinting admiration from a large following in the Lancashire mill town and has variously been compared to his namesake Colin, at Manchester City, because of his untold stamina, and Alan Ball because of his



Bryan Robson of West Ham.



Blackburn's Kevin Hird.



Graham Bell of Oldham.

ation. So too is another of the growing number of coloured players making his mark, Stoke City's Garth Crooks, a player of grace and skill.

Our first choice, though, was the Second Division's top scorer — BRYAN ROBSON who seems to have regained all of his old sharpness in and around the goal-area and who becomes our third West Ham selection.

The goal Robson scored against Wrexham — his 199th in the League — must rank as among the best he has scored. It demonstrated his confidence and alacrity in tight areas.

Receiving a cross waist high he controlled the ball, swivelled and shot into the top corner of the net all in the same movement, a truly great goal.

That was one of several Pop has scored this season in his lethal partnership with David Cross.

Great ability

Having said that we've preferred another London striker MIKE FLANAGAN to Cross, partly because of his great ability to attack down either flank, and his greater mobility.

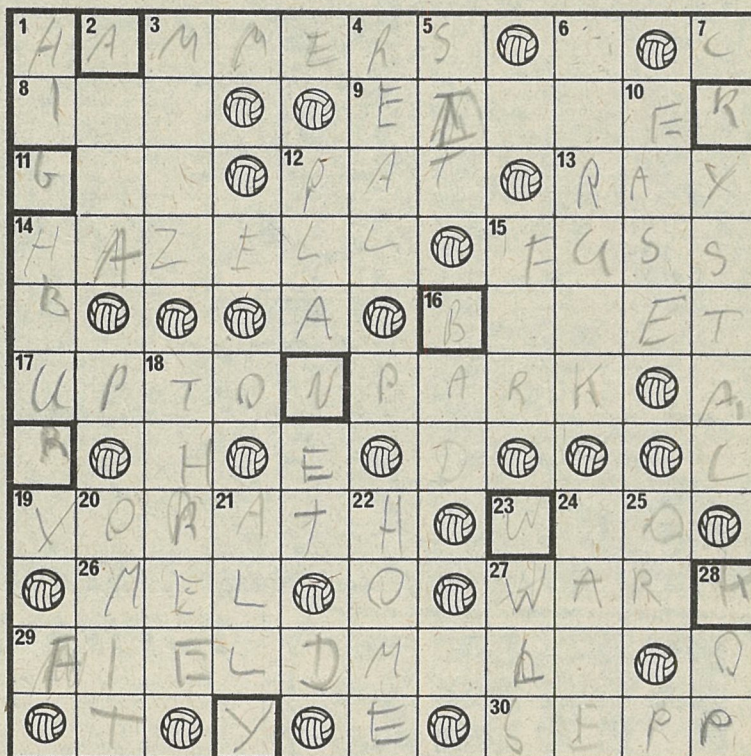
Flanagan used to suffer from having to do too much on his own at The Valley but now he has Martin Robinson alongside him he doesn't have to bear so much weight and is far more consistent than he was when he first came to the notice of the bigger clubs.

Having studied the varied talents of players like Alex Bruce, of Preston, Vince Hilaire, of Palace, Brian Stein, of Luton, Bobby Shinton, of Wrexham, and Paul Richardson, of Stoke City we

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Leeds United defender.

Answers on page 42.



the Second

excellent vision and ability to read a game.

Whether Graham goes as far as those two in the game remains to be seen but he is certainly working on the right lines.

The selection of a Bonds-Bell-Brooking middle line means the three B's keep out excellent players like Billy Ingham, the little fire-ball playing the best football of his career at Burnley, Sammy Irvine proving Alan Durban was right to bring him out of the Third Division to Stoke, and Alex Sabella, a highly gifted Argentinian, who has had less publicity than Osvaldo Ardiles, but is nonetheless pleasing Sheffield United fans.

In attack we found ourselves replacing two men who might well have won selection. Terry Cochran, the former Burnley winger and Micky Thomas, formerly of Wrexham, simply because they are now operating down First Division touchlines after expensive moves. But we are still left with some more than useful performers.

High scorers like Paul Randall, now of Stoke City, Gary Rowell, of Sunderland and David Ross, of West Ham are worthy of consider-

decided to give the last place to Brighton's Welshman — PETER O'SULLIVAN.

He looks like Rivelino, has a left-foot almost to match, and has played a large part in the South club's rise over the last three seasons.

O'Sullivan is as astute as most players in his position and plies a constant stream of good balls to front men Peter Ward, Teddy Maybank and Malcolm Poskett.

He is a little unlucky not to have won more international recognition, but can still make his mark on the game if he continues to progress as he has done since Alan Mullery arrived at the Goldstone Ground.

For substitute we'll nominate Stoke's SAMMY IRVINE a resounding success since he left Shrewsbury Town and that gives us a final line-up of: Wallington; Hird, Turner, Lawrenson, Sansom; Bonds, Bell, Brooking; Robson, Flanagan, O'Sullivan; sub. Irvine.

Next week we'll be telling you who we think are the men of the moment in Division Three.

ACROSS:—

- (1) The —, a London club (See 17 Across).
- (8) A bit of annoyance from the Ireland team!
- (9) — Road Park; Hibernian.
- (11) —r-s-y Road, Crewe Alexandra's ground.
- (12) Forename of Arsenal 'keeper.
- (13) — Wilkins, Chelsea midfield player.
- (14) Bob —, Wolves defender.
- (15) Excessive commotion or concern.
- (16) —orf-r A-hl-ti- (Scots club). Gem side from the missing letters.
- (17) Ground of 1 Across. (5 & 4).
- (19) Terry —, Coventry City midfielder player.
- (23) D-u-l-s Park (Hamilton). The omissions reversed.
- (26) — Eves, Wolves striker.
- (27) John —, Ipswich Town midfielder player.
- (29) Mansfield Town's ground. (5 & 4).
- (30) — Maier, West German goalkeeper.

DOWN:—

- (1) Arsenal's ground is here.
- (2) Goalkeeper's use of hands is restricted to the "penalty" one.
- (3) French League club — mainly "satisfied".
- (4) The "genuine" Madrid side!
- (5) Posed for photograph or painting.
- (6) Hit hard — as the ball by a striker.
- (7) — Palace from Selhurst Park.
- (10) Take four letters from Chelsea to make "slacken".
- (12) —m-rs-o- Park (Queen of the South). Heavenly body from the missing letters.
- (15) John —mer former Stoke City goalkeeper.
- (16) A player should not allow himself to become thus.
- (18) The number of times Brazil have won the World Cup Championship.
- (20) Leave out — as a name from the programme, for instance.
- (21) Forename of previous Scotland team manager.
- (22) In a match the first team stated is the — team.
- (23) —all (English Div. Three). Tools from the omissions.
- (24) Tony —, Fulham defender.
- (25) Tennis B--ussia, West German League club.
- (28) The Liverpool crowd!

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England in Chile

I was born on 7th June, 1962, while the final stages of that year's World Cup were being played in Chile, and I'm wondering if England were in action that day?

TERRY SPENCER, ROMFORD

● Yes, they were, Terry — playing a 0-0 draw with Bulgaria in Rancagua.

That point from their Group Four tie was enough to put England into the Quarter-Finals on goal-difference at the expense of Argentina.

But England's hopes ended there — being beaten 3-1 by ultimate World Cup-winners Brazil.

Sam Ellis

Watford's Sam Ellis is my uncle — can you tell me about his earlier career?

GARY BUSH, MAIDSTONE

● Well, Gary, he began with 157 League games for Sheffield Wednesday

before moving to Mansfield in March, 1972.

There he stayed put for another 64 games before going to Lincoln in May, 1973.

Another 173 League games on — and then he followed his former manager, Graham Taylor, to Watford in August, 1977.

Sam, a penalty-kick expert, has scored more than a couple of dozen times from the spot in the past three or four seasons.

Best win

As a fan of Leeds, I'd like to know their best-ever win — and worst defeat?

ADAM SPADA, BEDFORD

● First came on 17th September, 1969, Adam, when Lyn Oslo were beaten 10-0 in a home first-leg of a European Cup-tie. (Leeds later won 6-0 away, to make it 16-0 on aggregate).

Leeds' worst defeat was when they were beaten 8-1 by Stoke in a First Division game on 27th August, 1934.

Nelson

Reading a football book the other day, I came across a reference to a former League club called Nelson. Can you tell me when they played?

BRIAN FISHER, BEDLINGTON

● This Lancashire club, formed in 1882, became one of the founder-members of the old Third Division (North) in 1921, Brian.

After two seasons, Nelson gained promotion to the Second Division — but were relegated straight back again.

In 1931, however, they failed to gain re-election to the League after finishing bottom of the Third North.

SHORT PASSES

● David Roberts is Oxford's most-capped player; his first six full Welsh caps in the early 1970's were while with the club.

(WEIHE LARSSON, Sweden)

● Ian Porterfield scored Sunderland's winning goal in the 1973 F.A. Cup Final against Leeds.

(IAN CHAN, Sale)

● Mike Doyle played 449 League games for Manchester City before moving to Stoke on 7th June, 1978.

(DAVID WILKINSON, Manchester)

● Brazil have played in the final stages of all 11 World Cup competitions; winning three of them.

(JULIAN TAYLOR, Newmarket)

● George Best scored 137 goals in his 361 League games for Manchester United.

(BARRY LONGLAND, Peterborough)

● Doncaster Rovers' highest-ever finishing-position was seventh in Division Two in 1901-02 — their debut-season in the Football League.

(MICHAEL WILKINSON, Doncaster)

● Billy Wright (total 105) was the first English player to gain 100 full caps; followed by Bobby Charlton (106), and record-holder Bobby Moore (108).

(EDWARD ALLOTEY, Leeds)

● Geoff Barnett was Arsenal's goalkeeper in the 1972 F.A. Cup Final against Leeds.

(KEN WRIGHT, Bedford)

● The address of Kevin Keegan's club, Hamburger SV, is: Rothenbaumchaussee 115, Hamburg 13, German Federal Republic.

(ALISON SUMMERS, Wolverhampton)

● Jimmy Greenhoff played 95 League games for Leeds, 31 for Birmingham, and 274 for Stoke before being transferred to Manchester United on 18th November, 1976.

(HENRIK JORGENSEN, Denmark)

● Liverpool's first League game (Div. Two) was a 2-0 away win against Middlesbrough Ironopolis on 2nd September, 1893.

(J. DAVIES, Gloucestershire)

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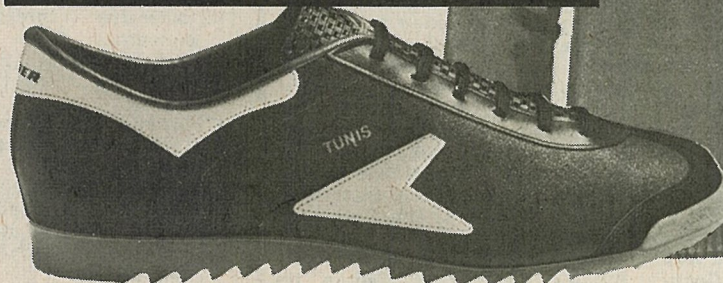
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

HISTORY MAKING

Nottingham Forest

FOOTBALL League clubs have had many different starts in life. Some are formed from the local church, cricket club, or public house. Many scattered the seeds from which the household names of today have grown.

Nottingham Forest, never call them Notts Forest, began in 1865 when a group of "Shinney" players (hockey is the nearest description) decided that football would be a better game.

Their first meeting was held in a pub, needless to say, and football has a lot to thank Nottingham Forest for since that inaugural meeting.

Take a look at some of their 'Football Firsts' that we now take for granted.

Forest were the first club to adopt shinguards (1874), the Referee's whistle (1878), three half-backs (1885), the first crossbar instead of tape (1891) and also oval section goal-posts.

They hold the record for the highest away win in the F.A. Cup proper, they beat Clapton 14-0 in 1890-91, while supporters need no reminding that Forest established a new unbeaten 42 match League run this season.

Forest's disciplinary record is impeccable also at a time when red cards flash almost as often as red traffic lights.

When Sammy Chapman was sent-off against Leeds United at the start of the 1971-72 season, he became the first Forest player to be dismissed since 1939. A span of 32 years that no other club could equal.

Forest entered the F.A. Cup in 1879 and reached the Semi-Finals, a feat they repeated the following season and again in 1885, 1892, 1900 and 1902.

In 1892, the Football League elected Forest to the First Division and Nottingham became the first city to have two First Division clubs. Notts County being original members of the Football League.

The first trophy to be won by Forest came in 1898 when they captured the F.A. Cup, beating Derby County 3-1.

In 1906, the club were relegated, but won promotion at the first attempt, winning the Second Division Championship.

Forest could not repeat the performance when they were relegated again in 1911 and spent seven seasons in the Second before winning the title again.

The next two seasons back in the First were nail-biting ones for the Forest fans, they finished 20th both times before going down again in the third season.

This time it was a 17-year stay in the Second before they were releg-

TOP LEAGUE SCORERS:

1973-74	Duncan McKenzie	26
1974-75	Neil Martin	10
1975-76	Ian Bowyer	13
1976-77	Peter Withe	16
1977-78	Peter Withe & John Robertson.....	12



John McGovern displays the League Championship trophy.

gated to the Third (South), 1949.

At the second attempt Forest won the Third (South) title (1950-51) with centre-forward Wally Ardron scoring 36 of their 110 League goals.

In 1957 they won their place back in the First Division and in 1959, after a gap of 61 years, won the F.A. Cup. Forest beat Luton Town 2-1 at Wembley after winger Roy Dwight, who had earlier scored a great goal, was carried off with a broken leg.

Forest supporters who believe that Brian Clough was the man who first set Nottingham Forest alight are therefore mistaken.

On August 24th, 1968, a crowd of 34,000 were in the City Ground watching Forest play Leeds when the grandstand caught alight and was gutted!

GOAL magazine, in a preview of the game, carried a headline reading "Forest to blaze away" but even that respected journal hardly expected that response.

Forest moved across the river to share the County ground until their new imposing stand was built.

The fire had come only a year after Forest had gone very close to the 'double'. Runners-up in the First Division and Semi-Finalists in the F.A. Cup.

Their hopes of League triumph ended in a 1-0 defeat by Manchester United, at Old Trafford, a victory that won United the title. While Tottenham beat Forest in the Semi-Final of the F.A. Cup.

Jim Baxter, Ian Storey-Moore, Joe Baker, Alan Hinton and Terry Hennessey were all names that Forest fans will remember from that era.

In 1971 Forest dropped into the Second Division and it was not until 1977 with Brian Clough at the helm that Forest fought their way back to the First Division.

LEAGUE FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Result	Venue
1978 Aug			
19	Tottenham.....	1-1	H
22	Coventry C.....	0-0	A
26	Q.P.R.....	0-0	A
Sept 2	W.B.A.....	0-0	H
9	Arsenal.....	2-1	H
16	Man. Utd.....	1-1	A
23	Middlesbrough.....	2-2	H
30	Aston Villa.....	2-1	A
Oct 7	Wolves.....	3-1	H
14	Bristol C.....	3-1	A
21	Ipswich T.....	1-0	H
28	Southampton.....	0-0	A
Nov 4	Everton.....	0-0	H
11	Tottenham.....	3-1	A
18	Q.P.R.....	0-0	H
25	Bolton W.....	1-0	A
Dec 9	Liverpool.....	0-2	A
16	Birmingham.....	1-0	H
23	Man. City.....	0-0	A
26	Derby Co.....	1-1	H
Jan 13	Arsenal.....	1-2	A
Feb 3	Middlesbrough.....	A	
10	Aston Villa.....	H	
17	Wolves.....	A	
24	Bristol C.....	H	
Mar 3	Ipswich T.....	A	
10	Southampton.....	H	
17	Everton.....	A	
24	Coventry C.....	H	
31	Bolton W.....	H	
Apr 7	Chelsea.....	A	
11	Man. City.....	H	
14	Derby Co.....	A	
16	Leeds U.....	H	
21	Birmingham C.....	A	
28	Liverpool.....	H	
May 5	Norwich C.....	A	

To be arranged: Norwich (H), Chelsea (H), Manchester Utd (H), W.B.A. (A) and Leeds (A).
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(continued on page 26)

FOREST ROLL OF HONOUR

SECOND DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP: 1906-07, 1921-22
THIRD DIVISION (SOUTH) CHAMPIONSHIP: 1950-51
F.A. CUP WINNERS: 1898, 1959
FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP WINNERS: 1977-78

Action from the 1959 F.A. Cup Final. Forest beat Luton 2-1.



BACK ROW (left to right):
Ian Bowyer, Viv Anderson, Tony Woodcock, Kenny Burns.

MIDDLE ROW:
Jimmy Gordon (coach), Frank Clark, Larry Lloyd, Chris Woods, Peter Shilton, Colin Barrett, Brian Clough (manager).

FRONT ROW (left to right):
Peter Withe (now Newcastle United), David Needham, John McGovern, Martin O'Neill, John Robertson.



NOTTINGHAM



AM FOREST

SHOOT!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

PEN PICTURES

(L.App.— League Appearances. G.— Goals. S.— Substitutes. All records to end of the 1977-78 season.)

VIV ANDERSON: Defender who became the first black footballer to win a full England cap. Signed professional in August, 1974. Born Nottingham. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 10.4. L.App.— 107 and 5 sub. G.— 4.

COLIN BARRETT: Defender who signed for Forest from Manchester City in April, 1976, after a loan period with the Forest club. Born Stockport. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.7. L.App.— Man City 50 and 3 sub, Forest 53 and 5 sub. G.— Forest 3.

GARRY BIRTLES: Young striker who hit the headlines in September, 1978, when he scored one goal and made the other as Forest beat Liverpool in the first-leg of the European Cup 2-0. Born Nottingham. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 10.12. L.App.— 1.

IAN BOWYER: Skilful midfielder signed from Orient in October, 1973. Born Ellesmere Port. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.2. L.App.— Man. City 42 and 8 sub, Orient 75 and 3 sub, Forest 165 and 5 sub. G.— Man. City 13, Orient 18, Forest 41.

KENNY BURNS: Central defender signed from Birmingham City in August, 1977, for £150,000. 'Footballer of the Year' last season. Full Scottish international who played in the 1978 World Cup Finals. Born Glasgow. Ht. 5.10½. Wt. 11.0. L.App.— Birmingham 163 and 7 sub, Forest 41. G.— Birmingham 45, Forest 4.

FRANK CLARK: Experienced defender signed from Newcastle United in July, 1975. Born Durham. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.2. L.App.— Newcastle 388 and 1 sub, Forest 96 and 1 sub. G.— Forest 1.

STEVE ELLIOTT: Young striker who made his League debut v. Coventry City at Highfield Road on August 22nd, 1978. Born Haltham. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 11.0.

ARCHIE GEMMILL: Midfielder signed from Derby County in September, 1978, for £100,000 plus the transfer of 'keeper John Middleton to Derby. Captain of Scotland and played for his country in the 1978

World Cup Finals. Born Paisley. Ht. 5.6. Wt. 11.2. L.App.— St. Mirren 65 and 2 sub, Preston 93 and 9 sub, Derby 261, Forest 32 and 2 sub. G.— St. Mirren 9, Preston 13, Derby 18, Forest 5.

LARRY LLOYD: Big central-defender signed from Coventry City in December, 1976. A full English international. Born Bristol. Ht. 6.2. Wt. 12.4. L.App.— Bristol Rovers 43, Liverpool 150, Coventry 50, Forest 52. G.— Bristol Rovers 1, Liverpool 4, Coventry 5, Forest 3.

JOHN MCGOVERN: Skipper of the Forest side and midfielder signed from Leeds United in February, 1975. Scottish Under-23 international. Born Montrose. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 10.13. L.App.— Hartlepool 69 and 3 sub, Derby 186 and 4 sub, Leeds 4, Forest 119. G.— Hartlepool 5, Derby 16, Forest 4.

DAVID NEEDHAM: Central defender signed from Queens Park Rangers in December, 1978, for £150,000 only six months after he had left Notts County for the London club. Toured the Far East with England 'B' side in the summer of 1978. Born Leicester. Ht. 6.1. Wt. 12.7. L.App.— Notts Co. 428 and 1 sub, Q.P.R. 18, Forest 16. G.— Notts County 32, Q.P.R. 3, Forest 4.

JOHN O'HARE: Striker or mid-

A happy Peter Shilton leaves the field after helping to beat Wolves.



fielder signed from Leeds United in February, 1975. Full Scottish cap. Born Renton. Ht. 5.8½. Wt. 11.7. L.App.— Sunderland 51, Derby 247, and 1 sub, Leeds 6, Forest 78 and 4 sub. G.— Sunderland 14, Derby 65, Leeds 1, Forest 14.

MARTIN O'NEILL: Midfielder signed from Irish club Distillery in October, 1971. Regular in the Northern Ireland side. Born Kilrea.

Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.3. L.App.— 180 and 18 sub. G.— 32.

JOHN ROBERTSON: One of the most exciting wingers in the League and his outstanding play in Forest's League Championship season saw John (left) win full Scottish caps. Signed professional in May, 1970. Born Uddingston. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 10.9. L.App.— 183 and 11 sub. G.— 27.

PETER SHILTON: Must be the finest goalkeeper in the country and looks likely to reclaim the number one England place from Ray Clemence. Signed from Stoke City for a club record £250,000 in September, 1978. Born Leicester. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.10. L.App.— Leicester 286, Stoke 110, Forest 37. G.— Leicester 1.

TONY WOODCOCK: Striker signed professional in January, 1974, and won full England cap in the 1977-78 season v. Northern Ireland. Born Nottingham. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.0. L.App.— Lincoln (loan) 2 and 2 sub, Doncaster (loan) 6, Forest 73 and 4 sub. G.— Lincoln 1, Doncaster 2, Forest 22.

Chasing success in Europe

THE League Championship and League Cup trophies are still gleaming in Nottingham, a city that has not seen so much silverware passing hands since Robin Hood led the sheriff a merry dance.

Now it is the turn of Brian Clough and his merry men to chase the biggest silver trophy of them all — the European Cup. Having made sure Liverpool do not join Europe's elite by winning it for a third time, Forest are now in the Quarter-Finals.

There is not, however, the same fluid football that made Forest such a powerful force last season. They are in the top six of the First Division as they bid to retain the League Championship and also in the Semi-Finals of the League Cup. But one wonders if manager Clough regrets allowing striker Peter Withe to leave for Newcastle before he had a replacement in a Forest shirt. It does not need a mastermind to reveal that it is shortage of goals that could be their undoing this season.



Peter Taylor and Brian Clough have brought success back to Nottingham.

'We're not good enough for the Second Division-yet'



CHESTERFIELD are fast gaining a reputation for providing fans with absorbing entertainment and "cracking" goals.

The Third Division League table illustrates a certain inconsistency, but reports from the Recreation Ground suggest a lot of progress under manager Arthur Cox, who took over two years ago with a declaration he was only interested in signing "winners".

He could have joined Bob Stokoe a few months ago to help Blackpool regain a place in the Second Division, but he elected to stay with the Derbyshire club and carry on his team building.

Why then did he sell the two strikers Stuart Parker and Ricky Green he bought after taking over at Chesterfield?

"I would have liked to have kept them but, at the present time, we don't get sufficient money from the gates to buy players or even run the club.

"When I came here we had no strength at the front physically. We had two very good young players, about 17 years of age, Phil Walker and Gary Simpson. So I bought Parker and Green.

"When people came in to buy them with viable propositions I sold them. Green went to Notts County for £40,000 and Parker to Sparta, Rotterdam for £20,000.

"Now one of the younger players Simpson or Walker, play alongside Rodney Fern up-front."

In the Chesterfield tradition, two exceptional goalkeepers, Steve Ogrozcovic (£70,000) and Steve Hardwick (£80,000) were sold to Liverpool and Newcastle respectively for sizeable

says Chesterfield boss **ARTHUR COX**

fees. Their replacement, Glan Letheren, from Leeds, seems destined to play regularly for the Welsh team.

Players like Colin Prophet, from Swindon, Bobby Flavell, from Halifax, and Geoff Salmons from Stoke, have joined a squad aiming to play in the Second Division.

It's sound sense for Cox to have around him young lads striving to get into higher Divisions and older players with something still to prove. Such players motivate themselves.

'Experience'

"I would be the first one to say that just now we are not good enough! But with the necessary experience and years going on to the younger players, plus one or two new faces, we might form the basis of a squad to climb into the Second Division.

"This season we could have been more consistent. We went seven matches away from home without losing, but during that time couldn't win one of four home matches. Then we won four at home and lost two away. You have got to have a level of performance that you can lean back on.

"We have either been extremely good, or poor. I would rather that we attain the same level of points with consistency. We've played superbly against Peterborough, Charlton, Swansea, Southend and Oxford away but when we met Barnsley, Oxford, Exeter and Plymouth,

our form fluctuated so much it wasn't true."

The Republic of Ireland manager and former Leeds United midfielder player, Johnny Giles, is the name which crops up most in Cox's conversations. Giles' accuracy of passing, consistency, and general level of performance equates with that of Alan Ball during his Everton days, says Cox.

"It is all a breeding ground for consistency in life, not just a case of training professionals to play football and keep them fit," he went on. "It is a case of moulding their lives so that they've got something to lean back on later in life. That aspect is very, very important to me.

"Sure, I could have gone to Blackpool, but we've started something here that I want to see through. We've got players around us that we are responsible for bringing here and some young players that we are responsible for taking on. If you want loyalty from them, then you've got to show a little bit yourself.

"I love to see the young player get on. I don't feel quite the same responsibility to the older players."

Watching Arthur Cox give his goalkeeper Glan Letheren the training which will undoubtedly carry him back to higher levels in the game, and noting the vast improvement in defender Les Hunter's application, it is clear why there is increasing talk these days of high values being put on managers to match the climbing transfer fees of players.

WATFORD's convincing League Cup Quarter-Final replay victory over Second Division promotion favourites Stoke City was greeted everywhere as a marvellous example of the Hertfordshire club's ability to topple the so-called giants.

Everywhere, that is, except within the walls of manager Graham Taylor's office.

"I know it sounds big-headed, but our 3-1 win did not surprise me. I see our progress in this competition as a tribute to the standard of football played in the lower Divisions.

"And in any case, when are people going to stop being shocked? We've already beaten Newcastle United 2-1 at home and Manchester United 2-1 away."

Taylor has injected a hitherto unknown life and enthusiasm into the followers of Watford Football Club. The much-publicised chairmanship of rock superstar Elton John is a considerable factor in the club's projection this season. But it was Taylor who went around the town's pubs and clubs, sounding out the fans' views and criticisms before he even decided to accept the job.

Having lifted Lincoln City to the Fourth Division Championship and persuaded the locals there to raise the £30,000 necessary to buy a goalkeeper, Taylor became frustrated with the limitations imposed upon him by Lincoln at a time when they were high in the Third Division and capable of doing even better.

He was wanted in the First Divi-

Watford's League Cup shocks no surprise to manager

GRAHAM TAYLOR



Boss Graham Taylor (right) with chairman Elton John.

sion. West Bromwich Albion threw open their doors. But Taylor opted for Watford, then doing nothing in particular in Division Four.

"Too many managers take on jobs they are simply not equipped to handle," he said. "They try to work at the deep end too soon. I want to progress in my own way, at my own speed."

That's the way he built Lincoln's 1976 title-winning squad. After 189 League games for Grimsby Town as an average defender (two League goals) Taylor made more than 150 League appearances for Lincoln (one League goal) before a leg injury ended his career.

His astonishing success in leading Watford to the Fourth Division Championship last season, and to the top of the Third to date makes Graham Taylor one of the most wanted young managers in League football.

Yet many of his philosophies are simple — or at least he makes them sound as much.

"To win promotion from the Fourth Division then survive in the Third you must buy good Third Division players, not former star top Division players nearing the end of their careers.

"The pattern repeats itself when seeking an exit from Division

Three and entry into Division Two — good Second Division players."

Taylor was once quoted as saying that he breaks a season into a number of five or six-game mini-Leagues and assesses progress and realistic possibilities on the team's position at the end of each set of games. But there is more to it than that.

"This is just one of many ways of breaking up the pressure of a long season," said Taylor, "but it is certainly not my only way of approaching the job. You can look at a number of games and aim to collect so many points from those games. Afterwards, even if you have experienced a lean spell, you point to the next set of games and talk about making up lost points."

'Wingers'

Everything about Taylor is positive and forward-looking.

"We began the season using two wingers, but a number of teams tried extra-hard to beat us, probably because of our reputation for attacking football and our success last season.

"So I introduced Ray Train to midfield, brought in Roger Joslyn and overcame that problem without forsaking any of our attacking principles," he said.

Taylor added: "I am building a team for the Second Division. The town, the players and the club are all geared for it. Our League Cup success is icing on the cake. But promotion is our number one aim. And we want to achieve it in style."



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George V <input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth II <input type="checkbox"/>
George VI <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 Who is Edson Arantes Do Nascimento?
Is it
Ardilles <input type="checkbox"/>
Pele <input type="checkbox"/>
Villa <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 What team won the world cup in 1938? Was it
Italy <input type="checkbox"/>
Brazil <input type="checkbox"/>
Uruguay <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 The European Cup was first played in 1955-56, who won? Was it
Inter Milan <input type="checkbox"/>
Real Madrid <input type="checkbox"/>
Glasgow Celtic <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 What is the regulation weight of an adult team football? Is it
11-13 oz <input type="checkbox"/>
14-16 oz <input type="checkbox"/>
17-19 oz <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---|--|--|--|---|

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not in accordance with the Rules of Entry will be disqualified. 5. All entries will automatically become the property of Topps Chewing Gum and will not be returned. 6. The Judges' decision in respect of the completion of the unfinished slogan shall be final and binding. The Panel of Competition Judges will include at least one member independent of the promoters and their agents. Names of those comprising the Panel will be available on request after 28th February 1979 by sending a S.A.E. to the address in the coupon. 7. The competition solution and the slogan that wins the top prize will be published in 'Competitors Journal' in April 1979. The competition solution and winning slogan will also be made available on request by enclosing a S.A.E. and applying after 1st April 1979 to the competition address in coupon. A list of the major prizewinners' names and entries will likewise be available for those applying after 1st April 1979.

NEXT week's European Championship tie against Belgium at Hampden Park is Scotland's most vital match since our World Cup qualifier against Wales at Anfield in October, 1977.

It's a game both countries must win, otherwise the show's over. A draw is useless to either nation.

Like Scotland, Belgium have struggled to find their form in this competition. We've lost to Austria and Portugal and beaten Norway. Belgium have drawn matches against Norway and Portugal. Not very impressive statistics are they?

Portugal currently lead Group Two and are clear favourites to go through, but to be honest they didn't impress me in Lisbon last November.

To my mind Austria are the strongest of the four other nations in our group... and they weren't particularly outstanding in Vienna.

Scotland, as usual, did the right things too late staging a magnificent comeback to score twice in the second-half, through myself and fellow SHOOT columnist Andy

happen instead of working for openings and creating chances.

As manager Jock Stein has said, Scotland must be more positive in our approach, instead of nervously trying to protect our own 18-yard box.

When trailing 3-0 to Austria we relaxed, decided we had nothing to lose by going forward... and look what happened. Scotland swarmed all over the Austrians, made their defence look extremely vulnerable and almost snatched a remarkable victory.

Fantastic support

At Hampden, Scotland are a different proposition, especially in a match they MUST win.

When the odds are stacked heavily against Scotland you can almost guarantee we'll pull out all the stops and achieve the right result.

Why are Scotland almost invincible at home? Simple — our fantastic support!

I made my full debut for Scotland against Belgium, in Bruges during

'A draw will

Gray.

If only Scotland could have played as well for the entire 90 minutes we'd have won — and won well.

Scotland's away form since before the last British Championships has been diabolical. Not a record to be proud of.

We don't seem to believe in ourselves on opponents' grounds. Too many players wait for things to

our pre-World Cup tour in 1974.

We were beaten 2-1 by a team which included well-known stars Van Himst, Lamber, van der Daele and goalkeeper Piot.

They've all gone now, of course. The team playing at the moment is a young one, still feeling its way, trying to find its feet at international level.

Although the present Belgium



Alan Rough — never let Scotland down, but is his place in jeopardy?



team is a mystery to me and most people in Scotland, you can be sure our manager Jock Stein won't underestimate Guy Thy's side.

As I write I don't know Jock's plans, or in fact if I'll be in his team.

My form this season hasn't been good enough to suggest I deserve a permanent place, and it wouldn't surprise me if I was dropped in favour of Alan Hansen, who has been outstanding for Liverpool this season.

Plugging away

Obviously I'll be disappointed if I am left out, but I won't be making any dramatic statements, or threats about never pulling on a Scotland shirt again. I'll keep plugging away to ensure Alan doesn't get in next time.

After our defeat in Portugal Jock Stein said he would be chopping and changing the side, giving other players the chance to prove themselves. But I doubt if he will experiment too drastically.

Apart from myself, I can see a

nobody has really staked a claim for his place.

I've always found Alan a fine 'keeper and have developed a good understanding with him as a centre-half.

Jock Stein has been watching Coventry's Jim Blyth recently and may well have him in mind.

Everton's George Wood must also come into the reckoning. And don't be surprised if my old Leeds pal David Harvey gets a recall. He's been in fine form this season.

But whatever team Jock Stein puts out next week should be good enough to beat the Belgians.

Before I report for international duty, though Manchester United face the tough prospect of trying to beat an in-form Arsenal side at Old Trafford this Saturday (February 3rd).

Challenger

The Gunners are now definite Championship challengers, especially after being strengthened by the recent signing of Brian Talbot

Liam Brady's skills and David O'Leary's all-round brilliance and it doesn't take an expert to tell that there is the makings of a potentially great side.

Manager Terry Neill has done a great job at Highbury, but he'll be the first to pass on much of the credit to his coach Don Howe.

I was with Don for a spell at Leeds. He's magic with players, a real master. No disrespects but he hasn't really been replaced at Elland Road.

Fluke

United drew 1-1 at Highbury earlier this season, but thanks only to a magnificent performance by our 'keeper Paddy Roche.

Arsenal should have won. Even our goal by Stevie Coppell was a fluke... a rebound off another player.

Although we'll be going all out at Old Trafford, United's inconsistent form makes it impossible for me to predict the outcome.

Cheerio...

mean defeat for Scotland'

my soccer world
**GORDON
MCQUEEN**

new partnership up-front. Andy Gray is definitely out because of injury and there are doubts about Joe Jordan's fitness.

The most likely striking duo is Kenny Dalglish and Coventry's Ian Wallace.

Present 'keeper Alan Rough has his critics, but he's been hitting good club form, and let's face it, he's never let Scotland down and

from Ipswich for £450,000.

I understand Arsenal have been after him for about a year. And Brian has always wanted to play for The Gunners.

He's a great signing for them. Brian won't dazzle opponents with individual skills, but he can be relied upon to give a side 100 per cent effort week in week out.

Combine Talbot's work-rate, with

Gordon McQueen



United drew 1-1 with Arsenal at Highbury. Steve Coppell (left) scored their goal.

KEEGAN the BEST

AS I predicted a few months ago, Kevin Keegan was duly named European Footballer of the Year. Here is the full list of the voting:

1 Kevin Keegan (HSV)	87
2 Krankl (Barcelona)	81
3 Rensenbrink (Anderlecht)	50
4 Bettiga (Juventus)	28
5 Rossi (Vicenza)	23
6 Hellström (Kaiserslautern)	20
Krol (Ajax)	20
8 Dalglish (Liverpool)	10
Simonsen (M'gladbach)	10
10 Shilton (Nottingham For.)	9
11 Haan (Anderlecht)	7
12 R. van der Kerkhof (PSV)	6
13 W. van der Kerkhof (PSV)	5
Cabrini (Juventus)	5
15 Nehoda (Dukla Prague)	4
Souness (Liverpool)	4
Cruyff (Barcelona)	4
18 Masny (Slovan Brat.)	3
19 Gemmill (Nottingham For.)	2
Tresor (Marseille)	2
21 Van der Elst (Anderlecht)	1
Platini (Nancy)	1
Boniek (Stal Mielec)	1
Causio (Juventus)	1
Neeskens (Barcelona)	1
Alves (Benfica)	1
H. Müller (Stuttgart)	1
Six (Marseille)	1
Rummenigge (Bayern)	1
Bonhof (Valencia)	1

WORLDWIDE

COMPILED BY  CHRIS DAVIES

'I'd have loved to join Boro'

says Rene Houseman

THE block on my transfer to Middlesbrough has cost me a lot of money and broken my morale," says Argentina's number one star Rene Houseman. The 25-year-old World Cup striker has told the Argentinian Press that the English club had offered him a salary of over £2,000 a month, plus a £750 bonus for each win.

But apart from the money, the wonder boy of Buenos Aires has been deeply affected by the failure of the negotiations.

"I don't know," he says pensively, "when Menotti was manager here at Huracán I felt I was a member of a great team. Now, even Ardiles has gone and the team has been completely broken up. This year we've been struggling to avoid relegation."

"What's more, the club is also struggling financially, so sometimes we go two or three months without getting paid. Then they wonder why I

don't turn up for training!

"Transferring me is the club's great hope of getting back on an even keel, but the price they're asking frightens everyone off. I've lost count of the number of transfers that have fallen through at the last moment."

"All in all, I'm fed up. I've been the number one in Argentina since I was 16 and I think it's reached the stage where the fans in Buenos Aires have seen too much of me to get excited any more."

"I played badly in the World Cup, which didn't help. They've even demolished my home district of Buenos Aires, so all my friends and neighbours have been split up."

"The city doesn't seem the same any more. I really needed the change and the fresh set of challenges that the move to Middlesbrough would have given me. I'm thoroughly depressed and I've got to get out of this rut somehow."



SOCCER

MONTHLY 40p
February 1979 No.6



COLIN TODD
—on his
COMEBACK

GET

SOCCER

MONTHLY

AND GET INSIDE THE GAME

A SHOOT PUBLICATION

ACTION, EXCITEMENT, CONTROVERSY and IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS comprise the February issue of Soccer Monthly ... ingredients which make this an issue not to miss.

There is something for everyone, lots of it in colour, and enough talking-points raised to stimulate a full-scale debate.

- Study the colour preview of England's crucial European Championship match against Northern Ireland at Wembley.
- Read Celtic and Scotland full-back Danny McGrain's stinging attack on the game in England.
- Flick through the pages of Johan Cruyff's fascinating career-diary of goals, drama, bookings and international fame.
- Hear what Peter Osgood thinks of his return to Chelsea and what he can do for his 'favourite' club.
- Discover the extraordinary background of Mario Kempes' rise to fame and of his years as a fat, slow unwanted defender in Buenos Aires.
- Colin Todd's move to Everton has revitalised his career to the extent that he reveals his ambition to captain England.
- Tony Woodcock's career as seen through the eyes of the managers who almost got him from Nottingham Forest for peanuts.
- Brian Glanville of The Sunday Times looks at the value and varied faces of soccer management.
- Go behind the scenes at Elland Road and discover the amazing ups and downs of Leeds United.
- James Lawton investigates the 'Liverpool Phenomenon', Jimmy Sirrel tells what it is like to be Nottingham's "other manager" and more ... lots more.

MATCHDAY



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Working holiday for Brazil stars

IT has been holiday time in Brazil for the players, but they show they love their game even more when they are not obliged to play it. In spite of warnings from the clubs, that even threatened them with fines and suspensions in case they get hurt, the players have been involved in "friendlies" organised by themselves.

One star in such games is Francisco Marinho, who has just been signed by Cosmos, but who is back in Brazil until the end of February, when training with the American club begins. Marinho brought Carlos Alberto, also from Cosmos, with him, to play in the "friendlies", and is trying to get Chinaglia to come down to Rio.

If Cosmos don't watch out, Marinho will start a subsidiary in Brazil in no time at all!



Kempes scoring again after break

THE Christmas break worked wonders for Valencia's jaded World Cup stars Mario Kempes (right) and Rainer Bonhof (left). Kempes, who had scored only three League goals before Christmas, got married during the break and celebrated his first match as a married man by scoring twice in Valencia's 5-2 home win against Sevilla.

Bonhof scored two of the others (including one direct from a corner) — his first League goals for the Spanish club — and Solsona added the fifth.

Despite his two goals, Kempes will be hard-pressed to top the Spanish scoring charts for the third consecutive season. Austrian striker Hans Krankl also scored twice in Barcelona's 5-0 home win against Zaragoza to take his tally to 13, an eight-goal lead over Kempes, since extended even more.

Goals galore in France

THE French League programme is a strange affair this year. The season runs for 11 months, and clubs play only seven matches between mid-December and Easter! At the start of the long winter break, Racing Strasbourg still topped the League, though Nantes, Saint-Etienne and Monaco are breathing down their necks. It'll be interesting to see which clubs maintain their consistency during the stop-start pattern of the rest of the season.

One encouraging feature of the current campaign has been the high scoring rate — 724 goals in 239 matches for an average of just over three per match. Sixty-five per cent of the goals have been scored by home teams.

Meanwhile, the black note of the season has been the sorry state of once-famous Stade Reims, who were a major force in Europe in the late 50's and early 60's. They're firmly rooted at the bottom of the League, and their financial position is so desperate the directors are talking about having to close the club down.

NEWS FLASHES

THE Cosmos report brisk business for season tickets at the Giants Stadium. They fully expect to surpass the 20,000 they sold for 1978, when they averaged 47,856 at home. Prices range from £5 to £2 for youngsters under 16, and senior citizens. The season kicks-off on March 31st.

A MADRID newspaper claims to have uncovered evidence proving that three Paraguayan players, including Valencia's star striker Carlos Diarte, obtained Spanish nationality and the right to play Spanish League football by using forged documents.

WEST German magazine, Kicker, did its usual critical survey of Bundesliga players during 1978 and just one was rated as world-class. You're right ... Kevin Keegan. No world-class Germans. How times change.

APPARENTLY, during Anderlecht's 4-0 defeat by Liege, Anderlecht goalkeeper Debreë bit a finger of Susic of Liege!

WITH one-third of the Italian season gone, goals are still very scarce. Just 157 goals were scored in the first ten weeks, near the lowest-ever figure of 74/75 when only 143 goals were scored. At this stage last season fans had seen 188 goals.

BD President Heleno Nunes has denied here is a crisis in Brazilian football, arguing that in three years Brazil have played 53 matches and only lost once, to France, by 1-0, and added that of the 128 matches in the World Cup, Brazil were the only country not to lose a game.

FLORIAN Albert, 37-year-old former Hungarian star centre-forward, has signed a one-year contract to coach the national team of Libya.

THE leading scorer in the French First Division over the last ten years is Argentina born Delio Onnis, of AS Monaco, even though he has only played in the last seven seasons — with a total of 153 goals or an average of 25.5 per season.

ACCORDING to "Pilka Noza", Poland's big football weekly, the best player of the autumn campaign was 30-year-old Leslaw Cmikiewicz of Legia, a former international with 58 caps.

GERD Müller has announced he will retire at the end of the season. The 33-year-old Bayern Munich striker is still scoring regularly, but the word is he's unhappy with the club's atmosphere. If Der Bomber DOES quit Bayern, expect several American clubs to make him an offer.

BECAUSE of continual criticism from the Press and certain club directors, Brazilian referee Doraci Jeronimo committed suicide by throwing himself under a train in Minas Gerais. He was also depressed because his wife had died recently.

THE Cosmos are releasing Vito Dimitrijevic, the Yugoslav midfielder, so he may play one more year in his native country before retiring.

FORMER Mansfield striker Ray Clarke, now starring for Ajax, had a short holiday back home in England recently and came by car. Why? So he could take a large amount of English tea back to Holland...

BELGIAN League leaders Beveren paid just £36,000 to Hertha Berlin for striker Erwin Albert, yet 12 goals in his first 17 games puts him second in the goal-table ... and Beveren on target for the title.

HAPPY Christmas ... Bologna told their manager, Bruno Pesaola, that he was being sacked — on December 24th. His dismissal meant 25 per cent of the managers in the Italian First Division had lost their jobs this season.

IF history repeats itself, 1.FC Kaiserslautern will pip Kevin Keegan's Hamburger SV for the Bundesliga title. Over the last 15 years, the winter-break leaders have actually won the title on 13 occasions, and before the break Kaiserslautern topped the table above HSV.

DYNAMO Berlin are going great guns in East Germany, with 25 out of 26 points after 13 games, six points ahead of the next club.

SEVILLA's Argentinian World Cup star Daniel Berton has been fined £235 by the club for walking out before the end of a training session.

BORUSSIA Mönchengladbach star Berti Vogts has turned down the offer of a substantial sum from insurance if he ends his playing career. However, the West German star, recovering from a fractured ankle, wants to make a comeback "to play a few games before I retire". He resumed training in January.

APPARENTLY a Greek referee sent off Second Division player Kalaizopoulos of Emodaiko ... because he kissed the official after scoring a goal!

Money down the drain in Spain

BARCELONA are Spain's biggest spenders, with an annual budget of £5,800,000. And many fans are beginning to wonder if the club is spending its money wisely in the transfer market. In the last two seasons, for example, Barcelona have spent over half a million pounds on left-wingers Fortes, Esteban and Zuviria, yet none of them is currently playing in the number 11 shirt!

Manager Lucien Muller has decided the best man for the job is a 19-year-old called Carrasco (right), who's been playing in Barcelona's own nursery side, Barcelona Atletico, and who cost the club nothing!



THESE two young German fans show how to beat the cold. Their efforts were rewarded as the game between Schalke 04 and Eintracht Frankfurt ended 4-4.



'BUDGIE' IS STILL TALKING

LEATHERHEAD 'Lip' Chris Kelly, whose outrageous prophesies have provided many a ready made story for newspapers still has plenty to say — and most of it as controversial as ever.

'Budgie' was at his most vocal during an astonishing F.A. Cup run that ended amid a blaze of publicity at Leicester City's Filbert Street in January, 1975 when Leatherhead went down 3-2 at the end of a frenzied Fourth Round tie, after leading 2-0.

Millwall were quick to snap-up the striker with a knack for scoring crucial goals but within three months, without a League goal to his credit, and uncharacteristically disillusioned he crept back to Leatherhead.

The 29-year-old non-League goal-machine failed to raise the temperature at Millwall but criticises manager Gordon Jago's regime more than lack of ability on his part.

"Jago was a great preacher of attacking football," recalls Kelly of Millwall's former manager, who is now manager at Tampa Bay Rowdies. "But when it came to putting his ideas into practice they rarely came-off."

"It was only my naivety that ever allowed him to talk me into signing for Millwall in the first place. Arriving there was like winning the jackpot and then finding you've only got a few bob."

Much was expected of Kelly on his arrival at The Den. He failed to make an impact. Kelly blames an eminently unsuccessful stint in dockland on not being allowed to express himself on the field and a laborious training schedule, aimed at erasing all enjoyment from the game.

"I've no regrets about giving up the chance of a professional career," he stresses. "I knew after a week that I wouldn't be staying at Millwall for long. It took that amount of time for Jago to promise me the freedom of the park, and then add that I'd be expected to harry and chase opponents and pull my weight at the back. I couldn't believe it."

Insists

Despite his departure from the Second Division scene, Kelly still insists he was one of the better players at Millwall — and that includes England striker Gordon Hill.

"I was definitely an accomplished player at the club," he says boldly. "I was originally brought in to replace Gordon Hill, whom I never rated much as a player, and still don't. And it doesn't say a lot for the state of the British game that he went on to appear for England and command a £275,000 transfer tag."

"Although I never felt at home

with Millwall I was surprised when Jago tried to sell me to Arsenal towards the end of my stay. I could have gone there, but by that stage I'd had enough and wanted out."

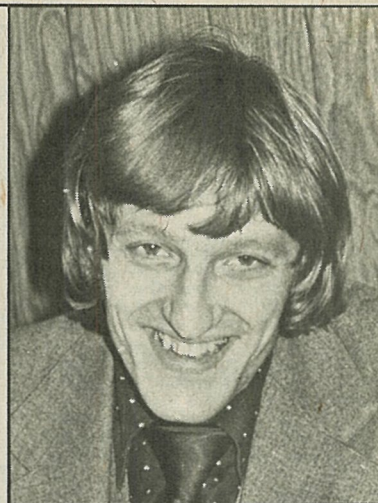
Kelly's talents attracted numerous other offers, a letter from Republic of Ireland manager Johnny Giles inquiring about his eligibility to play for the Republic and even a visit from an England scout, but the lure of a return to Fetcham Grove was too strong.

"People were wary of me at Millwall," comments Kelly. "I'd got a name as a big mouth which didn't bother me because it was all designed to whip-up interest in Leatherhead's F.A. Cup run and it worked like a charm. In fact, for about a month Leatherhead were something of a cult club."

Kelly has failed to hit the headlines since then, though Leatherhead's 3-1 F.A. Trophy Final defeat by Altrincham at Wembley last season did not go unnoticed.

"I've played in a Final at Wembley which is more than many First Division players can claim to have done," he points out. "And quite honestly, would have made a far greater impact on League football had I not chosen the wrong club to join in the first place."

Leatherhead and Kelly nearly made it into the draw for the Third Round of the F.A. Cup this season. But after a 1-1 home draw with



Third Division Colchester, whom they had beaten during that fabulous run four seasons ago, crashed 4-0 in a replay played in freezing conditions.

The lure of the North American Soccer League has been no problem for an increasing number of English players, but Kelly turned down the chance to join the exodus.

Invited by Eddie Firmani, then boss of Tampa Bay Rowdies, to leave Britain for the sun soaked beaches of Florida, Kelly rejected the offer. Looking back he has reservations about the decision.

"Maybe I should have taken the plunge," he concedes. "But Millwall looked a good bet at the time. And with a wife and kids, it's not easy to just get up and go."

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Personal Callers Welcome

FRANK Worthington's brilliant form this season has brightened the First Division and put him on course for the magical 30 goal mark.

But is his form worth an England cap? His Bolton colleague Willie Morgan — a Scotsman of course — certainly thinks so.

FRANK'S WORTHY OF AN ENGLAND RECALL

Says Morgan: "I can't see how anyone can oppose Frank playing for England. If they want a player who's getting goals regularly, they've got to go for him. And he can play, too."

"Getting back into the First Division has inspired him, just as it has Alan Gowling and myself. When you've been there before and then have a spell in the Second Division, you really appreciate the First."

"There's no argument in my mind Frank should be in the England team — and don't give me that old excuse about him being too old. It's been proved beyond any doubt age is an irrelevance."

"People might say if he's picked now, at 30, he'll be too old when the next World Cup comes round, which is what Ron Greenwood is building for."

"But how do they know that? If you analyse the teams in the World Cup, you'll find a lot of the players are in their thirties."

"Frank's form has helped me play better, too. With him and Alan Gowling doing so well in the middle, it's given me the incentive to provide the chances for them."

When Bolton manager Ian Greaves first moved in for Worthington last season, he decided only to take him on a month's loan.

He wanted to make sure the player's attitude was right before paying out £80,000 for him. Greaves, of

course, was the manager who transferred Worthington at Huddersfield after he and two other players had asked for a bonus to keep the club in the First Division.

The fee Greaves paid Leicester City looks a bargain now and the manager says: "I'm delighted with the

way Frank has played."

"His goals last season helped us to promotion and he's really relished the atmosphere of the First Division. His attitude has been spot on, too."

Worthington himself, who won the last of his eight caps in 1975, has no doubts about his ability to play for his country again.

He says: "I believe I'm the best in the country at my position and so I should be in the England team. My goals record says it all. In the few games I played at international level, I felt it was where I belonged."

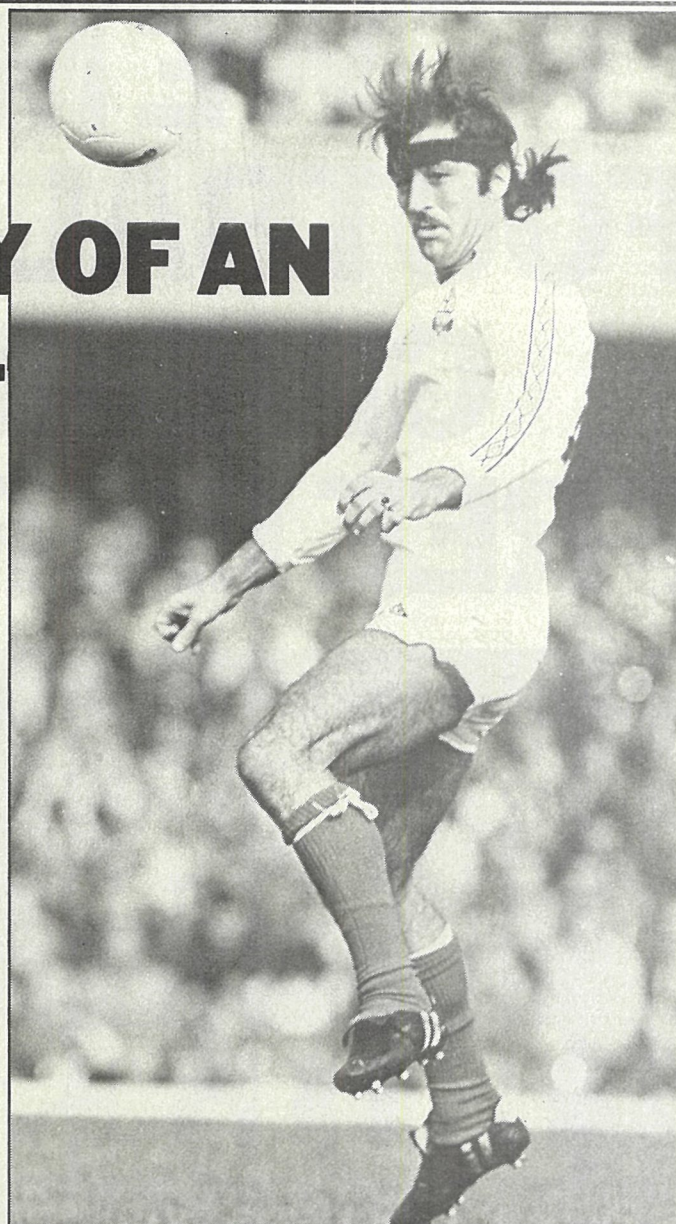
"Some players are great for their club but can't quite bridge the gap to international level. But I felt completely at home there."

"Playing for my country has always been my biggest ambition. Other youngsters were always on about winning Championships and F.A. Cup Finals. But I just wanted to wear that white shirt."

"I told the other ground staff kids at Huddersfield I would play for England. I kept that promise but it's been four years since I last played."

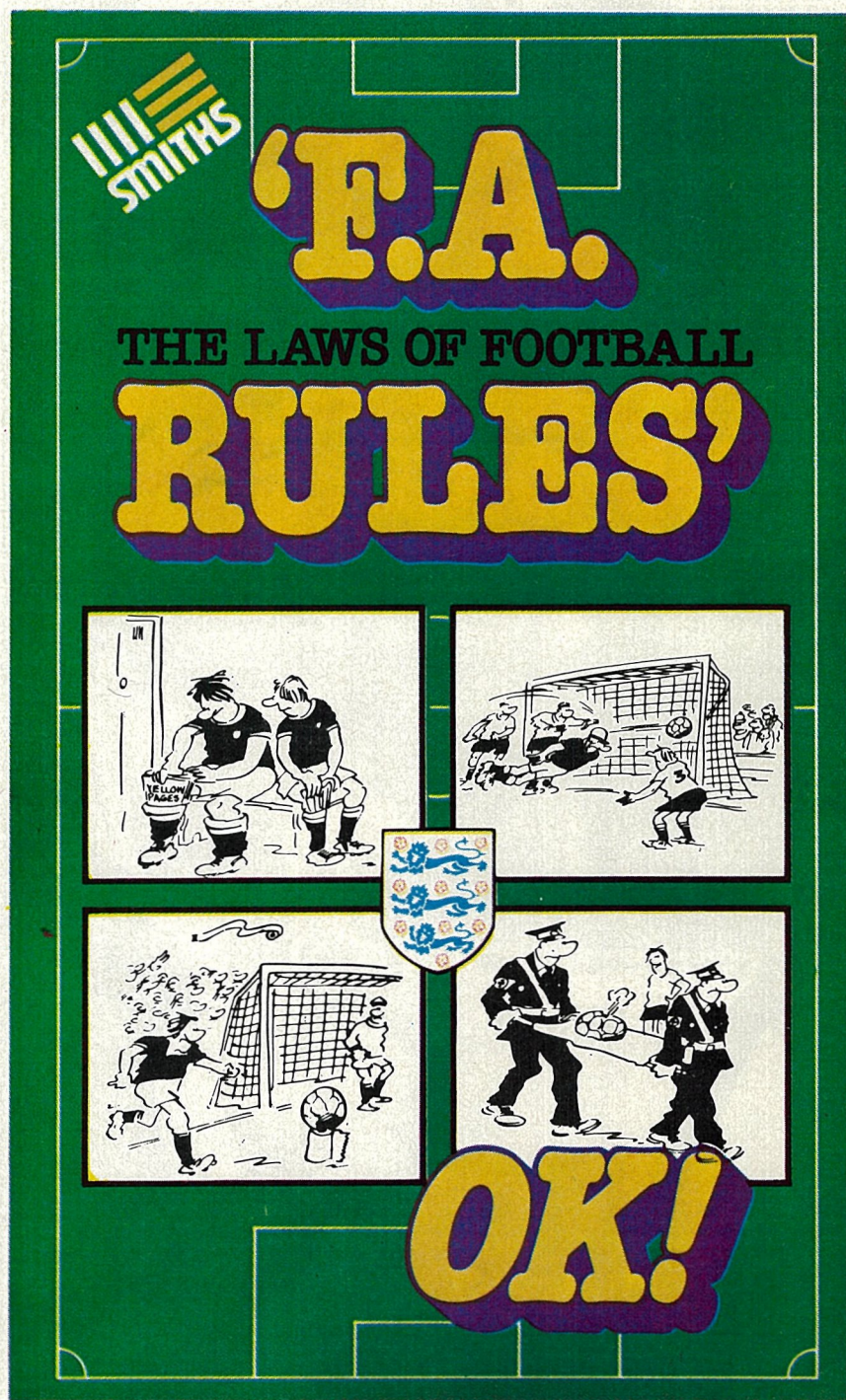
"In all that time, I've never given up hope. I half expected Ron Greenwood to pick me when he first became England manager because I know he fancies me as a player."

"It didn't happen but I'm still hoping. If he doesn't pick me this season though, I'll have to accept I won't make it."



Worthington (number nine) is on the mark for England against Argentina in a 2-2 draw at Wembley in 1974.

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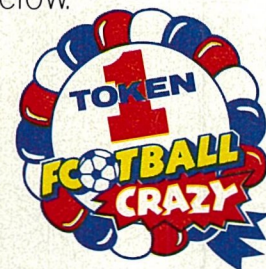
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ABERDEEN

FULL NAME: John Haras Fleming
BIRTHPLACE: Maybole, Ayrshire
BIRTHDATE: 15th January, 1953
HEIGHT: 5ft 8ins
WEIGHT: 11st 5lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Kilmarnock
MARRIED: Yes to Susanne
CHILDREN: One girl, Averil
CAR: Morris Marina estate
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Pele and Davie Robb of Norwich City
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Scotland
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: No one in particular
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Scoring a hat-trick v. Partick in the Semi-Final of the Scottish Cup last season
BIGGEST THRILL: Playing in Europe against RWD Molenbeek
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing in last season's Scottish Cup Final to Rangers
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Canada
FAVOURITE FOOD: Home-made soup
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Golf and playing with my daughter and dog in the park
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Shaving, slow drivers and losing games
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Sports, Rising Damp and Ronnie Barker shows
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Neil Diamond and myself on Flower of Scotland
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESSES: Susan George, Clint Eastwood and Sylvia Kristel
BEST FRIEND: I have many good friends
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Myself, Ally MacLeod, Teddy Scott and former team-manager Billy McNeill
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Long coach journeys after losing
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None
PERSONAL AMBITION: To have a good life for myself and family
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win everything Aberdeen enter
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? Electrician or hairdresser
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? The person who hands over the Premier Division Championship Trophy



SHOOT!

THE NINE-LETTER WORD BANNED AT SWINDON

TEN years ago, Swindon became "Merseyside" and went football crazy. A Third Division side of rich ability and brash confidence stormed its way into football history by winning the League Cup at Wembley.

It was the result the critics least expected. The little-known Wiltshire players — Wales full-back Rod Thomas was their only international — faced an Arsenal side packed with some of the great names of football. Yet the style, spirit and driving enthusiasm of that Swindon side moved mountains.

This season at the County Ground, that mood of a decade ago is breaking through once more. "We are geared for success. That is all we talk about," says manager Bob Smith.

"The word 'promotion' is the one we don't use. I just feel success brings its own rewards."

His skipper Ray McHale, now in his third season at the club compared to manager Smith's six months, knows the local pitfalls all too well. "The one disappointment as we climbed into promotion company was the crowds did not come back as we hoped."

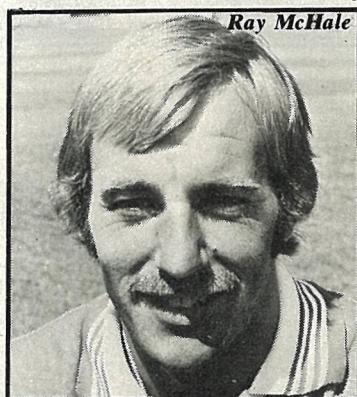
"This is because everyone in this area feels we are a Second Division club."

"The spirit and competition is unbelievable. Look at the players who have been out of the side this season, Irish international Bryan Hamilton, Brian Williams, who cost £50,000 from Queens Park Rangers, and Andy Rowlands, who cost £90,000 from Bury."

"They have been going flat out to win first team places, but those players already there have been playing that much harder to keep them out."

Boss Smith agrees: "Yes, you must give credit to the players. Their response has been tremendous."

"When I came here from Bury



Ray McHale

during the close season, I drew up a code of conduct. I wanted dedication, I expected hard work, I insisted on pride of performance. Yet I appreciated that job enjoyment must go hand in hand."

"There were some on the staff not playing with the honesty that I looked for in their performances. That had to change, or they would have gone. We had talks about this problem — and those changes soon came. Every single player applied himself and the results started to come."

Swindon suddenly fired the imagination of their absent supporters in a trip to Swansea City. They became the first team for almost a year to win at the Vetch Field and the Welsh club's player-manager John Toshack admitted: "That is one of the best organised teams I've come across."

Toshack was given a hard time in that match by a fellow Welshman; former Under-23 centre-half Steve Aizlewood. The Swindon defender had been one of those players who failed to win the immediate appreciation of manager Smith, but who has now become one of his outstanding figures.

"Yes, Steve might have been one of those on his way but just look at the job he is doing now and

this game summed up his attitude," says Smith. "Steve broke his nose early on but refused to go off and attacked the ball with tremendous courage all the way to the finish."

Smith has not confined himself to rebuilding a team, he is also reshaping the entire club. "Our facilities here are outstanding and getting better all the time: — squash courts, sauna, £20,000 of improvements to the floodlights."

"All these things matter. It is not the individual who is important but the club."

He has put together his own management team to ensure every section of the club bustles along in top gear. His assistant is the man who guided Swindon to that Wembley triumph, Danny Williams, and there have been two other appointments of significance.

Wilf Tranter has returned to football as coach and Joe Trollope, hero of a staggering 738 League matches and a survivor of that epic League Cup Final, has been made Youth team manager.

"Wilf and I were together as 15-year-olds at Old Trafford. He went his way in the game and I went mine but we always stayed close friends."

Swindon has always been one of those homespun clubs which has thrived on local talent and there is no man who counts for more among the youngsters of Wiltshire than Trollope.

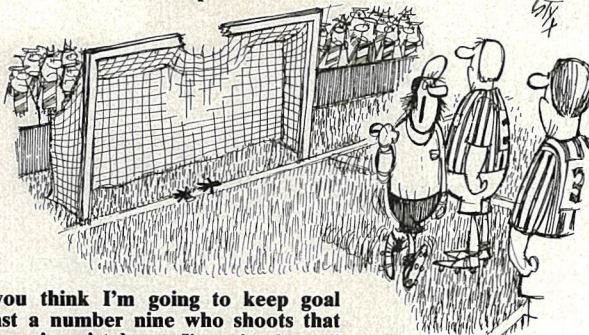
"His influence is just another of the many good things we've got going for us at Swindon these days," adds Smith.

FOOTBALL FUNNIES

"Please don't make me pack up playing for the local team, doc, I'm their star player"



"You are accused of turning out for a game with a hole in the seat of your trousers, thereby bringing the game into disrepute"



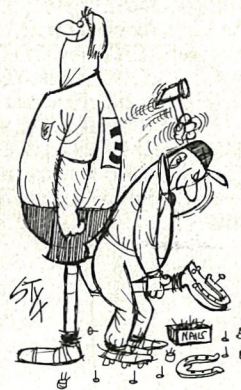
"I'm fed up. Everytime I score a goal, they rush on the field and smother me with kisses"



"If you think I'm going to keep goal against a number nine who shoots that hard, you're mistaken — I'm going home"



This week Cambridge United 'keeper MALCOLM WEBSTER selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



The ten who have scored.



Paul Arcari, Southport, Lincs.
Chose the Man. Utd. strip.



David Main, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne & Wear.
Chose the Spurs strip.



Deborah Ward, Charlton, London S.E.7.
Chose the England strip.



John Feeney, Walthamstow, London E.17.
Chose the Luton strip.



Neil Simpson, Leven, Fife.
Chose the West Ham strip.



John Wharton, Hull, Yorks.
Chose the Leeds strip.



Steven Hobson, Cheshunt, Herts.
Chose the Spurs strip.



Brian Skelhorn, Leyland, Lincs.
Chose the England strip.



Janet Mackie, Crail, Fife.
Chose the Dundee strip.



Kevin Wadsley, Barnetby, S. Humberside.
Chose the England strip.

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A review of the clubs which have spent their entire Football League careers in either the First or Second Division

THE good form of Crystal Palace and West Ham this season must be sending relegation shivers down the spines of those supporters of Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers who have studied their soccer history books, for never before have there been more than five London First Division clubs in the same season and, at present, the total stands at four. The inference is if Palace and The Hammers gain promotion, the odds are against Chelsea and the Rangers staying up.

On previous occasions, just when it looked as if London's membership of Division One was about to be increased to more than five, there has always been a relegation from amongst the capital's clubs to balance things up. In 1961-62, Orient gained their first promotion to the First Division just as Chelsea were dropping out of that League and, at the end of the following season, the clubs changed places again.

Five years later, Q.P.R. reached the top for the first time at the expense of Fulham and, in the next season, Rangers returned from whence they came and were replaced by Crystal Palace. When Rangers came back up to Division One in 1973, it was Palace who had to make way for them. On each of those five occasions the number of London clubs in the First Division was five.

However, the London teams, like the Cockneys of the city they represent, have a reputation for bouncing back from adversity and four of them have never played outside the Second Division. This quartet is in good company



Liverpool players celebrate after beating Arsenal to clinch the First Division Championship in 1965.

SUCCESSFUL

because there are another twelve teams of whom the same can be said and they include some of the most illustrious names in English football.

Londoners first. Arsenal are enjoying the longest unbroken run in the current First Division but, amazingly, they were not promoted in the strict sense of the word the last time they came up! It was the first season after the First World War and The Gunners had finished a mere sixth in the last pre-War Second Division table of 1914-15.

When competitive soccer resumed four years later, both Divisions of the Football League were due to be increased from 20 to 22 clubs. Instead of re-electing both teams in the bottom two

positions back into the First Division, the League chose to drop one of them in favour of three from the Second Division to bring the top League up to strength.

One of the latter was Arsenal and the team relegated to make way for them was Tottenham, which did nothing to lessen the intense rivalry between the two North London neighbours, while Cup runners-up Chelsea, one point and one place ahead of Spurs in 1915, retained their premier status after the War.

As if stung by this indignity, Tottenham soared back to the top flight in 1920, winning the Second Division by six points, and twelve months later they triumphed in the F.A. Cup. Exactly thirty years afterwards, they had an equally spec-

tacular 'double', taking the Second and First Division titles in consecutive seasons in 1949-50 and 1950-51, and their record since then is the well-known one of having gained eight Cups and Championships.

To return to their deadly rivals, the decision to elect Arsenal to Division One in 1919 proved a sound one for, in the next twenty years, until the next outbreak of world conflict, The Gunners became one of the greatest club sides of all time.

They were Cup Finalists four times between the Wars, winning twice, and were League Champions on no less than five occasions, including a hat-trick of titles from 1933 to 1935.

If Arsenal's climb to the top had been under very unusual circumstances, the commencement of Chelsea's League career some fourteen years earlier was distinctly odd because, up to the time of joining the Second Division in 1905, they had not played so much as a friendly match as a club. Again, the foresight of the League proved beyond reproach, The Blues came third in their baptismal season and won promotion twelve months later.

Throughout their League life Chelsea have struggled to maintain top status, their best sequence coming between 1930 and 1975 when they were, more often than not, low in the table but relegated only once, and then for a season only.

During this period they won the League on their 50th anniversary, the League Cup on their sixtieth and the F.A. Cup and the European Cup-Winners' Cup in the early Seventies. Moreover, between 1964 and 1972, Chelsea were never lower than ninth in the Football League — undoubtedly, the best era in their varied existence.

Everton's John Hurst clears v. Liverpool during their Championship season of 1969.



The years either side of the First World War were eventful ones for the sixteen teams under review. Like Chelsea, Leeds City had joined the League in 1905 but the club was wound up early in their eleventh Second Division season and their fixtures taken over by Port Vale. The Yorkshire side soon made a comeback, rejoining Division Two as Leeds United in 1920, never again having cause to drop out of the two top Leagues and bursting into flower under Don Revie between 1968 and 1974 when they won six major honours.

West Ham United were admitted to the League in 1919, also a notable year for the capital's clubs. Although they appeared in a Cup Final early in their League career, losing the chaotic first Wembley one to Bolton in 1923, it has taken The Hammers until more recently to achieve success.

Between 1964 and 1966, their world-class players, Bobby Moore and Geoff Hurst, went to Wembley three years in a row to help win the F.A. Cup, European Cup-Winners' Cup and the World Cup and Peters played in the last two Finals. In 1975 the East Londoners

Hughie Gallagher, Chelsea's former Scottish wizard, beats Arsenal's defence to the ball.



couple of decades which has not already been stated? Yet it has not always been glory. Liverpool had a sensational opening three League seasons. They were promoted in their first, only twelve months after Sheffield United had achieved this feat, relegated in their second and came up again in their third as Second Division Champions for a second time, in 1895-96.

It took another relegation and promotion in 1904 and 1905, respectively, before The Reds finally got on the road to becoming a leading side. They played in the First Division for all but fifty years, spending eight seasons in the Second from 1954 to 1962 prior to embarking on their fantastic sequence of eleven honours in only fourteen years, including four European ones, in the 1960's and 1970's.

Finally, Leicester City fought long and hard to climb soccer's slippery ladder of progress. Apart from a solitary sortie into what was, in 1908-09, the top twenty, Leicester remained solidly Second Division from 1894 to 1925 when they became Champions for the

SIXTEEN

were at it again, carrying off the F.A. Cup, this time without the aid of their famous trio.

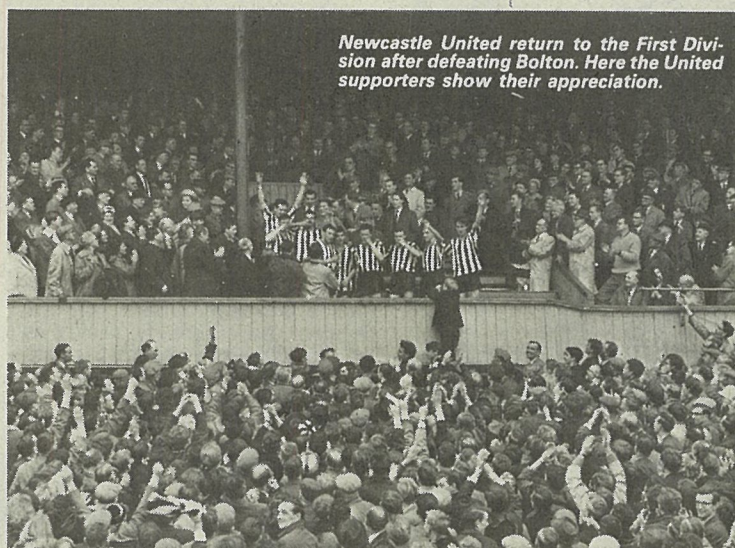
Three of the sixteen were founder members of the Football League in 1888. Proudest record of these three must be that of Everton, who have played all but four, out of eighty seasons, in the top Division, while Burnley have produced a streak of talented players, mainly for their rivals to snap up, and have still managed not only to stay in the top 44 but to win the Cup and the League twice. West Brom, ten times Cup Finalists but only once League Champions, are the third of the 'originals' never to have appeared in the lower sections.

Another four teams joined the League when the Second Division was formed in 1892, although

three of them may not be so familiar under their former names of Newton Heath, Small Heath and Ardwick, which later became Manchester United, Birmingham City and Manchester City. The fourth, Sheffield United, were promoted in their first season and held their First Division place for forty years.

The quartet all became famous clubs and all, except Birmingham, have won the Cup and the League. Birmingham were League Cup winners in 1963 and have topped Division Two four times.

Newcastle and Sunderland have brought a fine tradition of football to the North-East of the country. The Wearsiders took Stoke's First Division place in 1890 and did not relinquish it until 68 years later, having won the Championship six times and the Cup once in the



Newcastle United return to the First Division after defeating Bolton. Here the United supporters show their appreciation.

meantime. In the last twenty seasons Sunderland have twice gained promotion but have been unable to hold their positions amongst the very best company. Nevertheless, as a Second Division team, they achieved one of the most celebrated F.A. Cup victories against the mighty Leeds of 1973.

Newcastle, of course, are best known for their F.A. Cup exploits but it should not be overlooked they have been League Champions four times and have had long stretches in the First Division. The Magpies showed a great deal of promise after joining the League in 1893 and, after finishing in the top five three times in their first four campaigns, they were promoted in their fifth and stayed at the top for 36 years.

Sad to see both of these Georgie giants now in Division Two, leaving Middlesbrough, who would have qualified for this survey but for a solitary Third Division season in 1966-67, as the North-East's only representative in the top 22.

What more can be said about the activities of Liverpool over the past

first of five occasions. In the past half century, the Filberts have established a reputation for being 'the bridesmaid rather than the bride', having five times been F.A. or League Cup runners-up (including four Wembley Finals) and in 1929 being second in the Championship.

However, City have one honour to their name — the League Cup of 1964. Once again, these clubs have retained a link with 1919. In that year Leicester Fosse became Leicester City.

Like Middlesbrough, Stoke and Wolves missed being included in this survey by virtue of a single season in the Third while Aston Villa, Bolton, Derby and Nottingham Forest have only had two years each below the Second Division. Perhaps I can allay West London fears by pointing out the city has provided six members of the Second Division during the last two seasons, so why not six London clubs in the top Division for the first time as the 1980's approach?

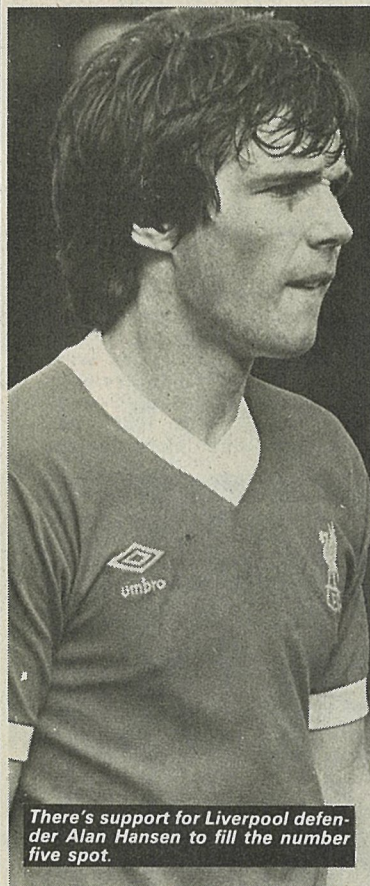
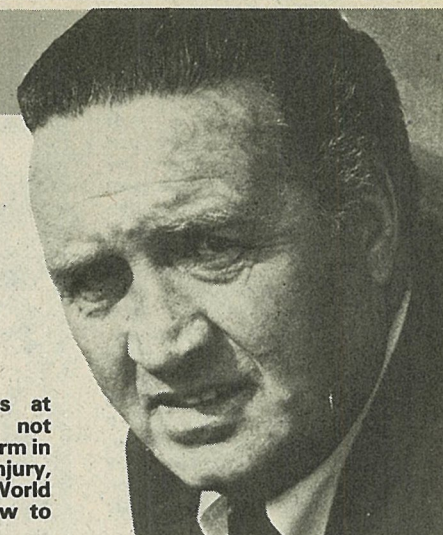
RECORDS OF THE CLUBS WHICH HAVE PLAYED SOLELY IN DIVISION ONE AND TWO

	JOINED LEAGUE	SEASONS IN		TOTAL	MAJOR HONOURS
		DIV. 1	DIV. 2		
Everton	1888	76	4	80	10
Sunderland	1890	64	14	78	8
Liverpool	1893	64	11	75	16
Arsenal	1893	62	13	75	13
West Bromwich Albion	1888	61	19	80	7
Manchester City	1892	59	17	76	9
Newcastle United	1893	58	17	75	11
Sheffield United	1892	55	21	76	5
Manchester United	1892	54	22	76	12
Burnley	1888	51	29	80	3
Chelsea	1905	50	13	63	4
Tottenham Hotspur	1908	44	16	60	11
Birmingham City	1892	43	33	76	1
Leicester City	1894	33	41	74	1
Leeds United	1905	33	30	63	6
West Ham United	1919	29	24	53	3

Places are according to the number of seasons in the First Division and totals include the current season of 1978-79.

PREVIEW – SCOTLAND v. BELGIUM
Wednesday, February 7th, at Hampden Park

Problems Jock Stein must solve



There's support for Liverpool defender Alan Hansen to fill the number five spot.

JOCK STEIN is known throughout soccer as a manager who never shirks responsibility. He has never been afraid to face up to challenges — he does not hide when the pressure is on.

On Wednesday (Feb. 7), at Hampden, The Big Man faces another test of character in the international arena when Scotland play Belgium in the European Championship and Stein, like everyone else, knows defeat in this match will be a disaster for the Scots.

But Stein has an outsize headache even before a ball is kicked against the Belgians. It does not require a college education to realise the Scottish side has been conceding goals at a remarkable rate in recent matches.

In three European Championship matches six goals have whistled into the Scottish net and the same number went past goalkeeper Alan Rough in three games in the World Cup Finals.

The Scottish rearguard has looked decidedly wobbly and the Belgians have already said they will be trying to force the Scottish defence into error in Glasgow.

One problem is at the centre of the defence. Gordon McQueen and

Martin Buchan, team-mates at Manchester United, have not always produced their club form in internationals. McQueen's injury, which kept him out of the World Cup, was a devastating blow to the Scottish camp.

Stein will have noticed, too, the Old Trafford club have been on the receiving end of several wallopings even with McQueen and Buchan in the heart of United's rearguard. In fact, when West Brom whacked five past Gary Bailey at Old Trafford in their 5-3 victory this season that brought United's total of goals conceded to 11 in only three matches!

So, will Stein give McQueen and Buchan another chance against the Belgians? Or will he look for another partnership?

There has been support in Scotland for Liverpool's Alan Hansen to wear the number five shirt. Stein is looking for a player not afraid to bring the ball forward from the defence and Hansen can certainly perform that role.

Stein is encouraging his men to play fluent football in the Dutch manner with players freed from a rigid system. The Scottish boss wants to see his men breaking fast from the back and searching for

openings, a system that has been sadly lacking in recent games.

So far, Scotland have gained only two points from three European Championship ties. That victory came against the amateurs of Norway at Hampden, but it was hardly an awe inspiring win. Remember it took a penalty two minutes from time by Archie Gemmill to eventually give the Scots victory by the odd goal in five.

And in Lisbon the team fumbled throughout the 90 minutes without success, Portugal winning 1-0 with a goal from raiding defender Alberto.

That goal highlights the weakness of the Scottish defence. Alberto was allowed to pick up the ball just inside the Scottish half on the left-wing and amble forward without any real pressure on him. Archie Gemmill came back to cover and Stuart Kennedy came to meet the Portuguese menace, but he drifted past both players as if they weren't there and he completed the misery with a fine shot past the unguarded Alan Rough.

Belgium will punish Scotland on Wednesday if they display the same casual attitude.

There are also problems for Stein in the attack. Kenny Dalglish has been criticised again after his performance against Portugal, but Stein, perhaps more than anyone else, knows the capabilities of his former Celtic superstar. Dalglish is a certainty to line up against the Belgians.

Andy Gray is out injured and Joe Jordan is also sidelined with injury. The time looks ripe for Coventry's Glasgow-born Ian Wallace to get a full run in the senior side.

The 22-year-old Coventry raider came on as a substitute for Jordan in Lisbon, but it was far too late for him to show what he can do. He had more success last season when he came on against Bulgaria, scoring the winning goal with a whiplash right foot shot.

A crucial game against the talented Belgians gives Stein little scope to experiment, but it would be a safe gamble for him to bring in Hansen and Wallace. If Scotland are to succeed in this tight section then a victory on Wednesday is a must.

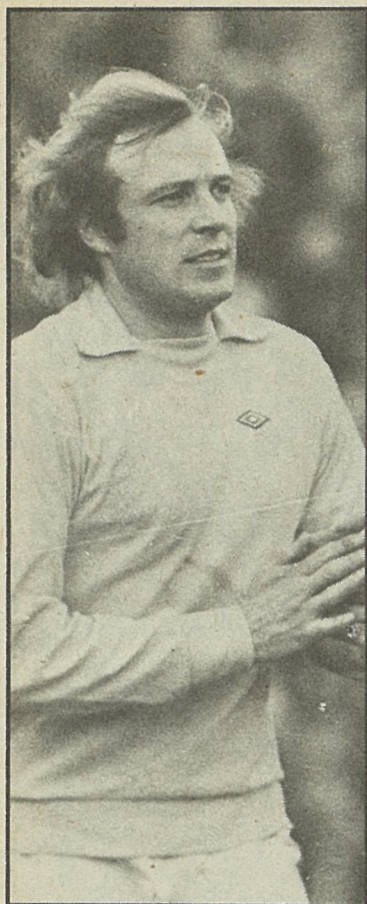
Jock Stein, more than anyone else, will be aware of that when he briefs the team before they take the field for one of Scotland's most vital matches in years.

HOW THEY STAND GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PORTUGAL.....	3	2	1	0	4	2	5
AUSTRIA.....	3	2	0	1	6	4	4
SCOTLAND.....	3	1	0	2	5	6	2
BELGIUM.....	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
NORWAY.....	3	0	1	2	3	6	1



Scotland could miss the power of Joe Jordan when they meet Belgium.



BAINES BOUNCES BACK

ROY BAINES has never hidden his admiration of Celtic. He is an Englishman who has always dreamed of playing for the Parkhead club and is now realising that ambition although he has taken a weird and wonderful route to the top at Parkhead.

Baines first came North from Derby. He had a trial with Celtic, but, alas, didn't convince the then manager Jock Stein that he was any better than Celtic had on their books at that particular time.

Stein, though, passed on some advice to his great personal friend Bill Shankly, who was then at Hibs, and he took a look at Baines. Shankly must have been impressed and he signed the agile, athletic goalkeeper.

Things, unfortunately, didn't quite go according to plan for Baines at Easter Road. He had good games, but he also had bad ones and eventually was given a free transfer.

He joined Morton and began to re-establish his reputation. He became more consistent, his anticipation improved and he looked a lot more relaxed and confident.

Three seasons ago he went on a one-man strike at Greenock and refused to play for the club. Man-

ager Benny Rooney persuaded him to come back for one game... and that one match was enough to convince Jock Stein that Baines was, after all, a class goalkeeper.

Stein swapped Andy Ritchie, now valued around the £150,000 mark, plus £15,000 for Baines and Roy had at last landed at Parkhead. However, he knew the battle was just beginning.

Peter Latchford, another Englishman, was already in the first team and he was a huge favourite with the Celtic fans. They had taken him to their hearts and Baines knew that he faced a doubly hard task of removing Latchford from the first team and also proving himself to the faithful.

Three seasons ago Latchford was injured and Baines came into the line-up. It was there that he built a solid foundation from which he launched his bid at proving his worth and ability.

He played superbly at the time and even faced Dundee in the Scottish Cup Semi-Final at Hampden. He says: "Yes, that was an occasion to remember. It was so important to the club at the time to win that match."

"Semi-finals are nerve-wracking. You hear people saying they

would prefer to be losing finalists rather than losing Semi-Finalists. I know what they mean.

"I went into that match absolutely determined to show everyone that I had what it takes to be a success with Celtic."

Baines played very well that evening as Celtic won 2-0. He didn't have an awful lot to do, but he dealt capably and confidently with anything that did come his way. There were a couple of awkward crossballs in the first-half while the game was in the balance and twice Baines clutched them firmly and safely.

However, Roy didn't get the opportunity to play in the Final. Latchford recovered from injury, got his place back and helped Celtic beat Rangers 1-0 in the big game at Hampden.

Now Baines is back in the first team with a sudden and dramatic loss of form hitting Latchford, who was Celtic's Player of the Year last season. Baines is the man in possession and now Latchford must sweat it out in the reserves.

Football is all about winners and losers... and Roy Baines is determined not to be a loser.

The problem Dons manager welcomes

ABERDEEN fans groaned heavily when they heard the news that their favourites had been hammered 3-0 by Fortuna Dusseldorf in their European Cup-Winners' Cup (first-leg) match in West Germany.

It was a disaster, but there was even worse news to come... centre-half Willie Garner broke a leg during the game and arrived back in Scotland covered in plaster.

Now, however, those fans are smiling. Garner is progressing nicely and there have been no complications with the injury. In his absence, however, The Dons have found not one, but TWO natural successors to the centre-half jersey.

In the first game after the halloping in Dusseldorf, Pittodrie manager Alex Ferguson was forced to play 17-year-old Alex McLeish in the heart of defence. The match was against Rangers at Ibrox, but McLeish hardly put a foot wrong as Aberdeen gained a valuable point in a 1-1 draw.

Recently, however, Ferguson has given the position to another youngster, Dougie Rougvie, and he, too, is showing that he has the class, the talent and the coolness required in this vital position.

"Some clubs struggle to find even one good centre-half," says



Aberdeen (dark strip) in action this season.

Fergie. "I'm lucky to have three of the best in the business. Honestly, when Willie Garner is fully fit I am going to have an awful problem!"

"However, it's a problem I welcome. A club can never have too many good players and competi-

tion is obviously good for an individual's game. I'm just delighted that both McLeish and Rougvie have done so well this season."

"They have shown they have the temperaments to handle one of the game's most demanding roles.

I'm very pleased with their progress. I couldn't fail to be."

Aberdeen may have stuttered a bit in the League around about the turn of the year, but no blame can be directed at either McLeish or Rougvie, who is currently in possession.

"When things went wrong in our match against Morton, who beat us 2-1 at Pittodrie, several of my players lost confidence. They must not lose this altogether in other games when things go against us."

"I know I have players of quality here, but without confidence and belief in their ability they won't be nearly so effective."

"Our main problem is that when Joe Harper isn't scoring no-one else is. Steve Archibald started the season in tremendous style, but recently has dropped off the scoring standard."

"A lot has happened to the lad since he signed from Clyde last year, though. He is still learning and I'm certain he will get back to form before much longer. This is just a temporary lapse."

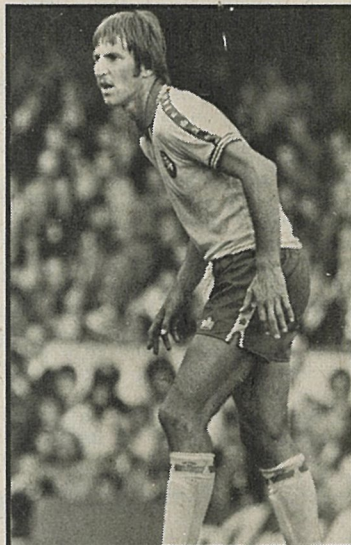
Fergie may have trouble with his goalscorers, but with the likes of McLeish and Rougvie around and Garner on the way back he has no such worries over his goalstoppers...

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

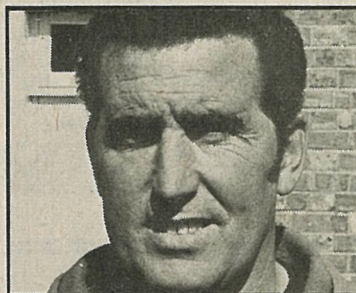
Quiz Time

1. Luton Town's lowest home crowd of the season — 6,002, 7,002 or 8,002 — witnessed their 3-2 victory against Bristol Rovers at Kenilworth Road on January 16th?
2. On the same evening, Grimsby Town thrashed Darlington 7-2 in a Fourth Division game. What was the half-time score?
3. Tottenham's 3-0 win against plucky non-League Altrincham in a Third Round replay at Maine Road was their first F.A. Cup victory since 1972-73, 1973-74, or 1974-75?
4. John Richards made a welcome return from injury recently when he appeared for Wolves against Swansea, Swindon Town or Shrewsbury Town in a friendly?
5. Preston's first goal, scored by striker Alex Bruce, helped knock Derby County out of the F.A. Cup. Was it Bruce's 15th, 16th or 17th goal of the season?
6. A former Aston Villa captain and Welsh international was appointed manager of Third Division Exeter City. Who is he?

7. Mervyn Cawston has been playing consistently well in goal for which Football League club?



8. Do you know the Christian names of (a) ----- Bond (Norwich City), (b) ----- Chiedozie (Orient), (c) ----- Hamilton (Q.P.R.) and (d) ----- Nicholl (Southampton, left)?
9. Newcastle United full-back Mick Barker moved to which Third Division club for around £50,000?
10. The League Cup Semi-Final first-leg, between Watford and Nottingham Forest, was played on January 17th. (a) Holders Forest won 3-1 but who put the Third Division club into the lead, (b) what was the half-time score and (c) where was the game played?
11. The F.A. Cup Third Round saga between Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday was finally decided on Jan. 22nd. The Gunners won but how many games did they take?
12. Fulham have had ten managers since the last War. Jack Peart, Frank Osborne, Doug Livingstone, Bedford Jezzard, Vic Buckingham, Bobby Robson, Johnny Haynes, Bill Dodgin (junior) and Bobby Campbell (below) are nine ... can you name the other one?
13. West Brom held Norwich City to a 1-1 draw at Carrow Road on



- Saturday, January 13th, to go top of the First Division. It was the first time Albion had led the table for 20, 25 or 30 years?
14. You've all seen a photo of the famous white horse that controlled the crowd in the first Wembley Cup Final in 1923. Was he called Boy, Billy or Butch?
 15. Which Third Division club are nicknamed The Cumbrians?

ANSWERS:

United.
years. 14. Billy. 15. Carlisle.
Fifth. 12. Alec Stock. 13. 25.
Ground, home of Forest. 11.
Luther Blissett. (b) 1-1. (c) City
Chris. 9. Gillingham. 10.
(a) Kevin. (b) John. (c) Billy. (d)
Godfrey. 7. Southend. 8. (a)
Shrewsbury. 5. 17th. 6. Brian
1. 6,002. 2. 6-0. 3. 1972-73. 4.

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Hammers. (8) Ire. (9) Easter. (11) Get. (12) Pat. (13) Ray. (14) Hazell. (15) Fuss. (16) Facet. (17) Upton Park. (19) Yorath. (23) Ago. (26) Mel. (27) Wark. (29) Field Mill. (30) Sepp. DOWN:— (1) Highbury. (2) Area. (3) Metz. (4) Real. (5) Sat. (6) Struck. (7) Crystal. (10) Ease. (12) Planet. (15) Far. (16) Fat. (18) Three. (20) Omit. (21) Ally. (22) Home. (23) Awls. (24) Gale. (25) Or. (28) Kop.

Jumbled Name: FRANK GRAY.

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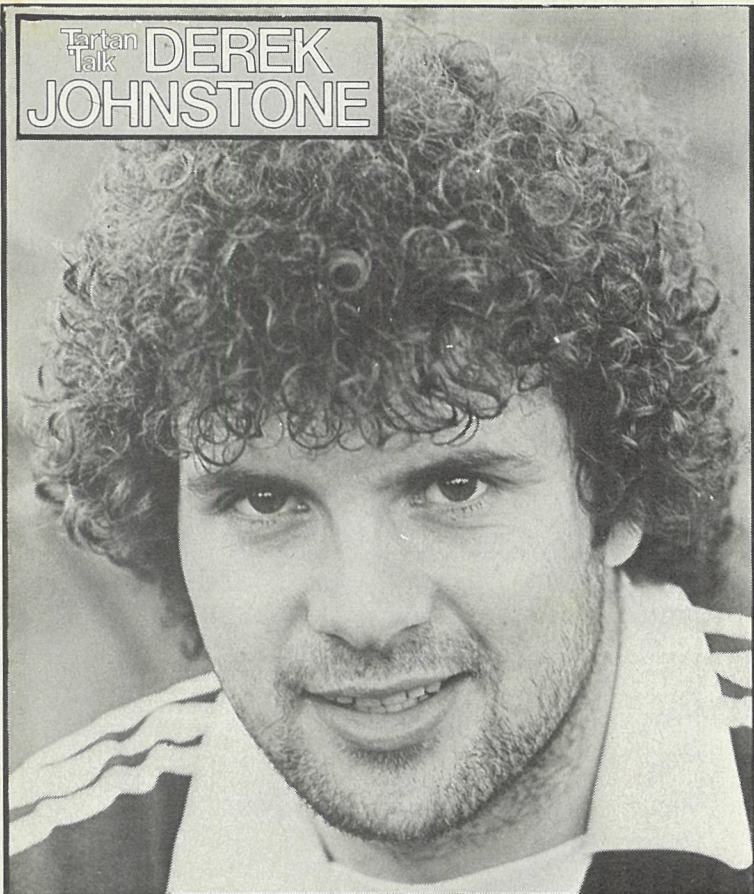
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Tartan
Talk **DEREK
JOHNSTONE**



THERE is an international flavour about Tartan Talk this week as I turn my spotlight on Rangers' European Cup Quarter-Final ties against West Germany's Cologne and Scotland's European Championship match against Belgium at Hampden on Wednesday (Feb. 7).

Firstly, let's take a look at Rangers' Europe draw. Cologne apparently haven't been doing wonderful things in the Bundesliga this season and I believe they had won only five of their 17 League matches before the draw was made.

However, that means very little to me. They are a good side by all accounts and have several talented players. I know all about the alert Dieter Muller up front.

He seems to have dropped out of favour as far as the international side is concerned at the moment, but he obviously hasn't lost his goal touch altogether. Possibly the weight of becoming the "new" Muller after Bayern's Gerd retired from the international scene weighed a bit heavily on the youngster.

He'll get complete respect from us, though, when we meet in Cologne on March 7 and again at Ibrox on March 21. Another player to be watched is Herbert Zimmerman, another international. I remember him in the World Cup before he was injured.

He came across as a thoughtful midfielder player who likes to break into attack. Another West German "cap" is Herbert Neumann who, I'm told, is a key man in the Cologne side.

One player who may miss the match is the experienced Heinz Flohe, who is injured. Flohe has impressed me on the occasions I have watched him. He is a strong, forceful player who likes to urge his side on. I won't be too upset if he misses both our matches!

And I believe Cologne also have a chap by the name of Okurda — or something like that! — who has played 47 times for Japan. And I know all about the Belgian player Van Gool. So, just running through those names you see that Rangers have a fairly stiff task against the West Germans.

Obviously, all the teams are good at this stage of the competition and there is no such thing as an easy draw. If Rangers do win the European Cup this season you can't say we haven't earned it!

We've been paired with the Champions of Italy (Juventus), Holland (PSV Eindhoven) and now West Germany (Cologne) in our three rounds this season. We've reserved some of our best form for Europe and manager John Greig has been calling on all his experience gained as a player to plot our paths through the minefield of Europe.

I'm not going to make any rash promises. We will treat Cologne with the respect they undoubtedly deserve. We'll take each game as it comes and if we play as well as I know we can then we are in with a shout. Certainly we have nothing to fear after already dismissing Juventus and PSV.

And what about Scotland? Their game against Belgium is absolutely crucial and Hampden will be the place to be if you like to see soccer fireworks on Wednesday.

It seems that the eyes of the world are still trained on Scotland after the events of Argentina. There have been some snide comments after the defeats from Austria (3-2) and Portugal (1-0) and the critics didn't go overboard after the 3-2 victory over Norway at Hampden, did they?

I think you have got to give the team a chance. The fans will have to be patient. Remember this is only Jock Stein's third match in charge of the team . . . you cannot expect a pattern to develop properly overnight.

Mr Stein's record is second to none. He is a respected figure in the world of soccer and he has his own ideas for the team. It would be nice to see a good display against the Belgians with a scoreline to back up the play, but, like I said earlier, the fans really will have to give their country time to get things together.

At the time of writing I don't know whether or not Mr Stein is including me in his plans, but I have got my fingers crossed. If I'm not chosen in this pool I'll just set my sights on the next squad.

I'm not going to give up easily! Anyway, that's all for this week. Let's hope Scotland can get a good win on Wednesday . . . and let's also hope we can do the business against Cologne. Cheers for now . . .

Derek Johnstone

**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**

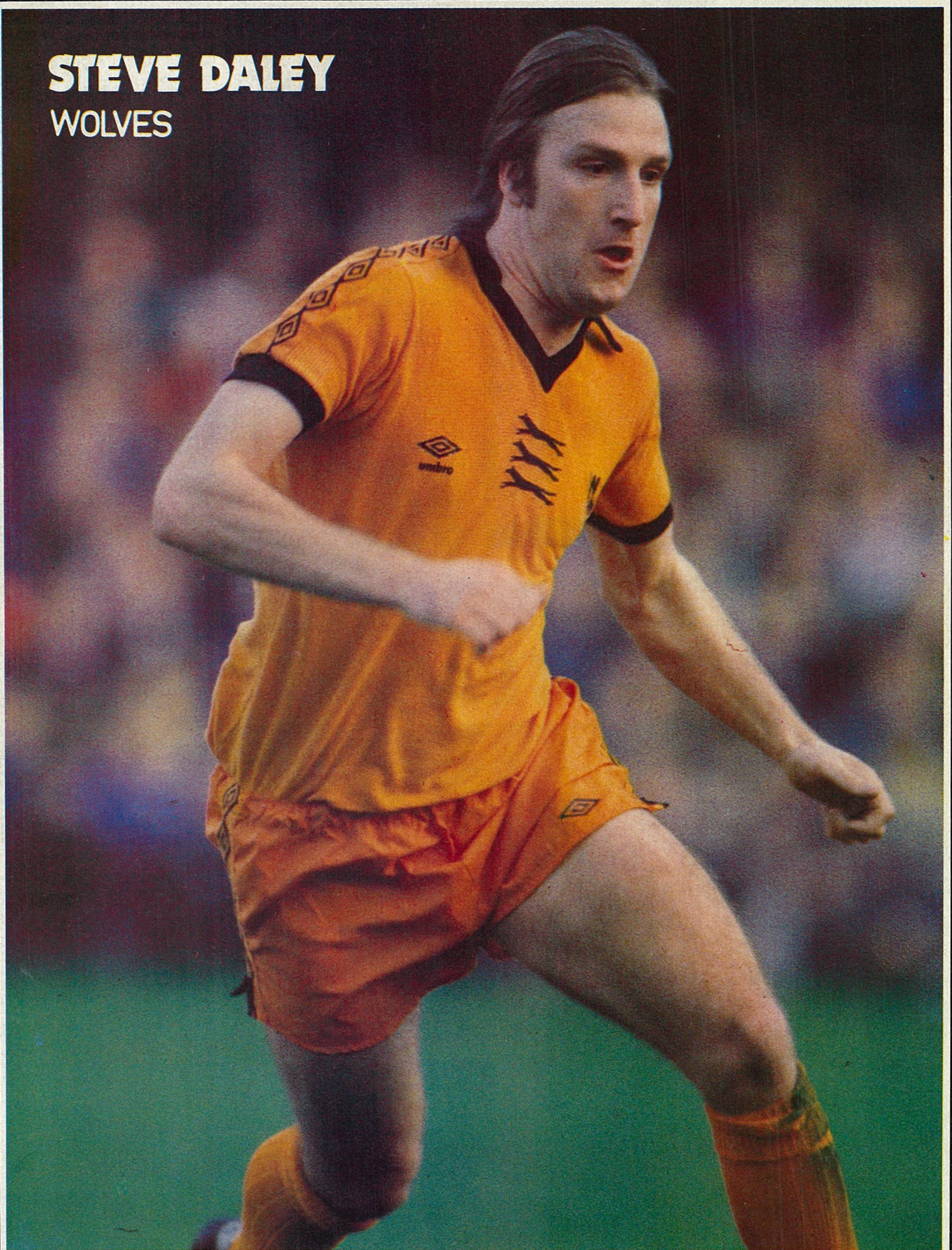
'SOCCER FIREWORKS FROM SCOTLAND'

Despite the presence of players with the class of Graeme Souness, Scotland lost in Austria.



STEVE DALEY

WOLVES



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